



2019 STATE POLICY UPDATE REPORT

This Report Brought to You by
OUNCE OF PREVENTION FUND NATIONAL POLICY TEAM



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Overview	4
Methodology	
Survey Methodology.....	8
Analysis Methodology	9
Results	
Early Care & Education.....	10
Early Intervention	13
Infant & Maternal Health	16
Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health.....	19
Family Resiliency	22
Home Visiting.....	25
Workforce & Higher Education	27
Revenue.....	30
Governance.....	33
Data.....	36
Additional Updates	
Population Priorities	38
Advancing Federal Level Policy	39
Elected Champions	40
Glossary	42
Appendix	43

INTRODUCTION

The Ounce of Prevention Fund (the Ounce) gives children in poverty the best chance for success in school and in life by advocating for and providing the highest-quality care and education from birth to age 5. The Ounce envisions a world in which high-quality early learning opportunities beginning at birth are an integral part of our nation's education system.

With commitment to quality as our guiding principle, the Ounce works at the intersection of practice, policy and research and forges public-private partnerships. Over the last 35 years, the Ounce has developed an effective approach to advancing knowledge, testing ideas in real-world settings, advocating for policy change, engaging champions and training practitioners and leaders.

Additionally, the Ounce has a long history of policy and advocacy work that is rooted in our deep experiences in Illinois. Through legislative, administrative and grassroots advocacy, our Illinois Policy Team seeks to shape the foundational elements of the state's early childhood system, including major funding streams, legislation and federal and state initiatives.

Our National Policy Team focuses on the intersection of policy, research and practice, providing consultation, peer learning opportunities and resources on policy content and advocacy to early childhood advocates, Educare Learning Network leaders, and other state and local systems leaders in 21 states and the District of Columbia (D.C.). Policy teams work to improve, implement and expand the policies, investments, programs and services that create high-functioning, high-quality early care and education systems. The Ounce also partners with the First Five Years Fund to increase federal investment in high-quality early childhood education programs and to ensure that the interests of children from birth to age 5 in low-income families are included in policy and funding decisions across the country.

The State Policy Update Report (SPUR) provides a snapshot of early childhood care and education budget and policy changes in states during the 2019 legislative sessions as of August 2019, many of which resulted in greater access to higher quality early learning programs and more-effective early childhood systems. This year, the report has been expanded to include more states than previously profiled. All 50 states and D.C. were invited to complete our 2019 State Policy Update survey. Representatives from a total of 33 states responded.

This year, survey respondents were asked to categorize **legislative, administrative and budgetary changes** that occurred in 2019, and to provide information about their involvement in advancing federal policy, identify elected officials who are noteworthy early childhood champions, and share stories about their accomplishments. As a result, we can offer a more robust report that illuminates trends and connects early childhood policy and funding advances across the country.

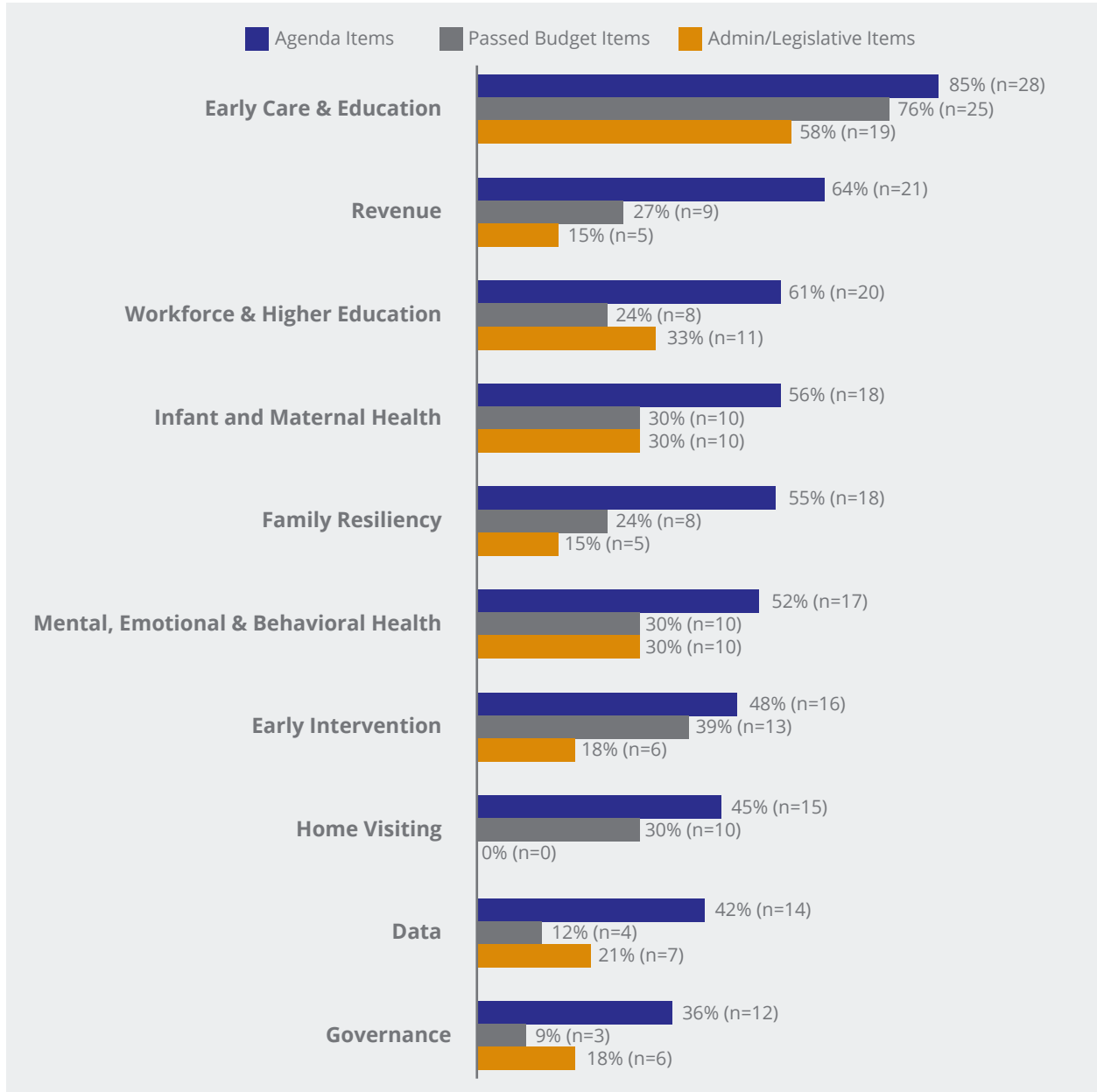
The body of the report is organized based on subject area, but individual state reports can be found in the appendix. Previous editions of the SPUR are available at <https://www.theounce.org/what-we-do/policy-and-advocacy/national-policy/>.

POLICY WINS: *In 2019, numerous states across the country made major policy changes and investments to improve the lives of young children and families.*

- In **California**, policy priorities generated by California's early childhood advocates were ultimately adopted by Governor Gavin Newsome in his fiscal year 2020 budget request to the legislature, resulting in over \$2 billion dedicated to early childhood. This includes the Early Learning and Care Infrastructure Grant program, which received \$142.7 million in one-time General Funds to be expended over five years to expand child care facilities serving families with low incomes.
- As a result of the 2019 legislative session, **Florida's** Office of Early Learning is now required to develop early learning professional development training and course standards to assess school readiness (e.g. child care) for program providers. The Office must also identify both formal and informal early learning career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications, which allow early childhood teachers to access specialized professional development opportunities.
- **Georgia's** new governor, Brian Kemp, fulfilled his campaign promise by approving \$15 million to increase salaries by \$3,000 for eligible pre-K and K-12 teachers in Georgia's classrooms.
- **Hawaii's** Department of Human Services, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety, will work with the family reunification working group and other community stakeholders to develop a plan to establish visitation centers at all state correctional facilities and jails.
- The **Illinois** budget included \$100 million in facilities funding for school districts and child care centers through the Early Childhood Construction Grant program. With these funds, early learning providers will build new or update existing classrooms for infants, toddlers and preschoolers across the state.
- **Louisiana** received \$4 million in new state funding for the LA 4 Pre-K program to sustain 800 pre-K seats that were previously funded by a federal grant that is ending this year.
- In **Maine**, Governor Janet Mills signed legislation to implement a statewide Early Childhood Consultation program where early childhood mental health professionals work with teachers, providers and parents to promote appropriate social and emotional development and manage challenging behaviors in children to help them be more successful in the classroom.
- **Oregon** launched the universal Family Connects program to provide all new parents in a community with the option of a nurse home visit after the birth of a child.
- As part of a \$6 billion boost to public education, **Texas** approved full-day pre-K funding through a new Early Education Allotment, which will distribute an estimated \$780 million per year for full-day, pre-K or other early reading and mathematics strategies.
- In **Virginia**, more than 1,500 at-risk 4-year-olds will have the opportunity to attend high-quality preschool. The final budget includes \$6.1 million to continue Virginia Preschool Initiative classrooms in 13 communities slated to close due to completion of a federal grant.

OVERVIEW

The chart below shows the categories in which state respondents reported **budget and legislative changes**, as well as **policy agenda items** for the upcoming year. The body of the report offers definitions, examples and more information for each category.



POLICY PRIORITIES: Many state respondents reported a **continued commitment** to expanding state-funded pre-K, expanding access to quality child care, improving instructional supports for early childhood teachers, improving prevention services for families at risk of entering the child welfare system, improving data collection and reporting, and countless other issues impacting children and families.

OVERVIEW

- **Colorado** is working toward expanding access to quality, affordable and available child care through increased funding, tax credit strategies and investigating the feasibility of contracted slots within the state's subsidy program.
- In **Rhode Island**, advocates are developing and implementing compensation strategies to improve qualifications and retention of effective infant/toddler educators, home visitors and Early Intervention providers serving infants and toddlers with development delays or disabilities.
- Advocates in **Kansas** have prioritized strengthening family support programs for working families by modifying eligibility policies for child care assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to ensure these programs can reach Kansas children and families in need.
- In **Oklahoma**, advocates are promoting an early childhood integrated data system to capture an unduplicated count of early learning program participation and inform future investments in early childhood.

CATEGORIZED AGENDA ITEMS	PERCENTAGE OF STATES (N=33)	STATES THAT REPORTED AGENDA ITEMS
Early Care & Education	85% (n=28)	CA, CO, FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MS, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI
Revenue	64% (n=21)	AR, CO, FL, HI, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MS, NE, NV, NM, NY, OK, OR, SC, SD, TN, WI
Workforce & Higher Education	61% (n=20)	AR, CA, CO, FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MA, NE, NV, NY, PA, RI, SC, SD, WA, WI
Infant & Maternal Health	56% (n=18)	FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, NV, NY, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, WI
Family Resiliency	55% (n=18)	AR, FL, HI, KS, KY, MD, MA, NE, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VA, WI
Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health	52% (n=17)	AR, CO, FL, KS, KY, LA, ME, MA, NV, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, WI
Early Intervention	48% (n=16)	FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, LA, ME, NV, NY, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, WI
Home Visiting	45% (n=15)	FL, IL, KS, ME, NE, NH, NJ, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VA, WI
Data	42% (n=14)	FL, HI, KS, LA, ME, MA, NE, NV, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, VA
Governance	36% (n=12)	AR, FL, KS, LA, ME, MA, NV, NM, SC, SD, TN, VA

OVERVIEW

Most of the states in this report are also engaged in advancing federal-level policy. Most state advocates (26 of the 33 states who responded to our survey) are involved in work to enhance the Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG). Many advocates also reported working to ensure children are accurately counted during the 2020 Census, developing plans for the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), and promoting the reauthorization of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA).

While these successes are impressive, they only scratch the surface of the accomplishments state advocates and their many partners have achieved over the past year. In addition to administrative rule and legislative changes and budget increases that expand high-quality early learning, states approved policies such as infant and early childhood mental health consultation and paid family leave that support the whole child and family. We are excited to share highlights from each state that illustrate the persistent work of early childhood advocates, program providers, public officials and many other stakeholders who continue to move the field forward in creating environments in which young children and families can thrive.

Survey Methodology

This year’s survey differed from previous years in four major ways: 1) survey was distributed through Qualtrics, 2) all 50 states and D.C. were invited to participate, 3) it included additional questions, and 4) it asked respondents to categorize policy items. By including more states and asking more detailed questions, trends emerged, and we can better connect successes and challenges across states and topics.

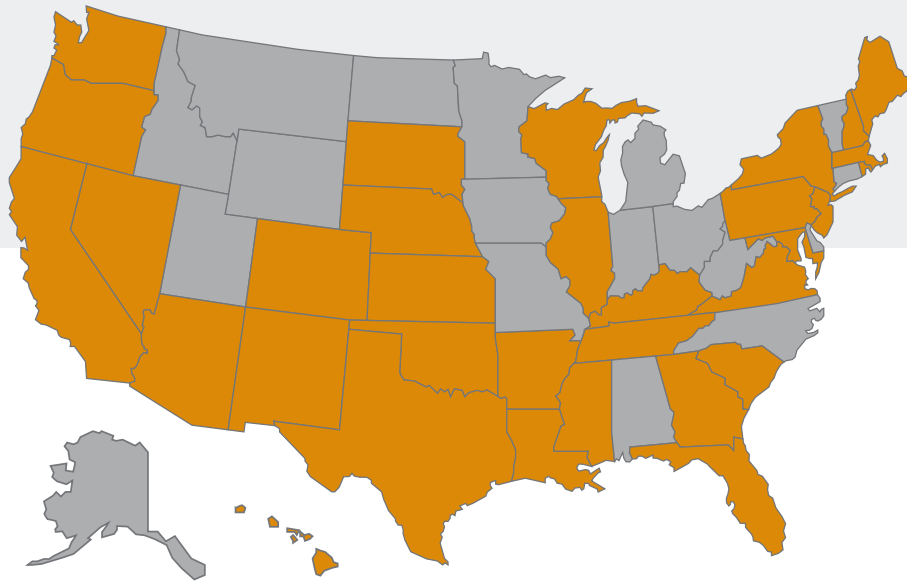
The table below shows the categories we asked state respondents to tag legislative, administrative and budgetary changes from the year. Advocates completing the survey were able to tag single items under multiple categories to ensure accurate and thorough reporting.

FIG 1: CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS

CATEGORIES	DEFINITIONS
Early Care & Education	Child care, pre-K, Head Start, Early Head Start, school readiness, investments in facilities
Early Intervention	Legislation and funding for children with disabilities (e.g. IDEA Part C)
Infant & Maternal Health	Programs and funding related to physical health, including reducing the rates of infant and maternal mortality and morbidity
Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health	School discipline policies (e.g. expulsion), mental health consultation, maternal depression
Family Resiliency	Supports for families with young children, including paid family leave, TANF, Women, Infants & Children (WIC), SNAP and Medicaid
Home Visiting	Any legislative, administrative and / or budgetary changes related to home visiting
Workforce & Higher Education	Professional development, training, wages, higher education, core competencies
Revenue	Tax credits, funding streams, new and/or increased allocations for early childhood
Governance	Special districts, governing boards, legislative councils
Data	Needs assessments, systems integration, state- and district-level reporting, state-funded studies

METHODOLOGY

The survey requested information on policy priorities, budgetary, legislative and administrative policy changes related to early childhood. The survey was distributed through Qualtrics on July 30 to 51 state advocacy organizations (one per state and one for D.C.). State advocates were asked to write in updates for each category: policy, budgetary, legislative and administrative. States could enter up to 30 items for each category. There was no character limit for updates, and states could include as much or as little information as they desired. State advocates were sent three follow-up reminders before the survey closed on August 30. A total of 33 state advocates participated. Michigan was unable to submit a policy update this year as they were in the midst of a budget impasse at the time information was requested.



Graphic above reflects the 33 states that participated in the Ounce's survey, marked as orange, which informed this State Policy Update Report.

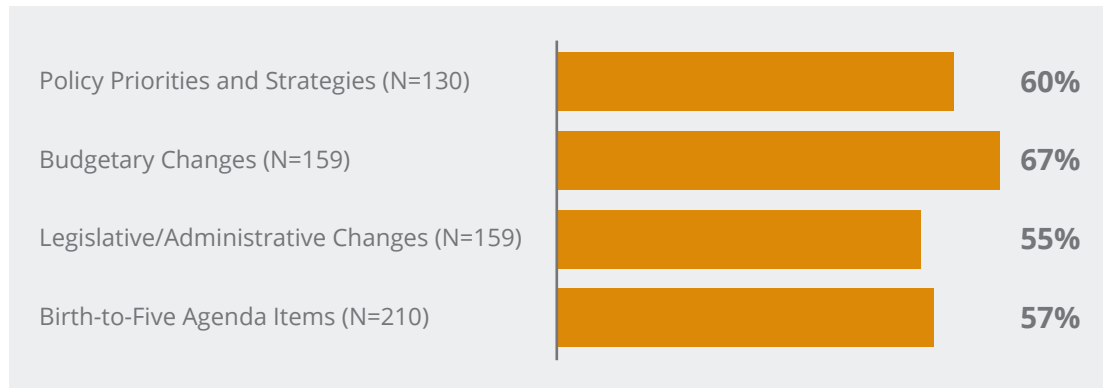
Analysis Methodology

After the survey was closed on August 30, 2019 open-ended responses from state advocates were qualitatively coded. Qualitative coding is conducted by reading through open-ended responses to identify common words or phrases used and identifying themes across many responses. A total of 658 items were entered across all categories. Items were qualitatively coded independently to identify overarching themes across states within the policy, budgetary, legislative and administrative categories. These qualitative codes were then cross-referenced with the state advocate's self-selected tags.

Early Care & Education

Legislation, administrative action or budget changes related to child care, pre-K, Head Start, Early Head Start, school readiness, investments in facilities and other similar topics.

FIG 2: EARLY CARE & EDUCATION



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, 67% (n=107) were self-identified as Early Care & Education. Out of the 30 state respondents, nearly all (97%, n=29) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these items (74%, n=79) were budgetary items that have passed, with only 7% (n=7) pending and 11% (n=12) having not passed. Across these 107 budgetary items focused on Early Care & Education, almost half (46%, n=49) of the items, focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Early Care & Education programs.

Some of those budget items include:

- **Illinois** passed a \$50 million increase (10.1%) to the Early Childhood Block Grant at the Illinois State Board of Education to expand and improve birth-to-five early childhood services.
- Several state budgets included funding to expand pre-K, including **Mississippi, Nevada, Texas, Oregon, Pennsylvania, California, Kentucky, Colorado, Washington, Maryland**, among others. **New York's** budget, for example, added \$15 million in new funding for pre-K expansion. The budget also secured all existing pre-K funding for the future, a total of nearly \$850 million, supporting more than 120,000 3- and 4-year-olds.
- States like **Rhode Island, Colorado, Kentucky, Illinois and Louisiana** saw increases to their state Child Care Assistance Programs (CCAP). Louisiana approved \$8.9 million to CCAP, which will fund an additional 1,400 children on the program's waitlist at the new higher rate. This is the state's first investment to expand CCAP in 10 years.
- **South Dakota, Maryland, Georgia, Washington, Wisconsin, New York, Arizona** and **California** all increased their child care subsidy rates in their respective budgets. In South Dakota, the Department of Social Services raised the ceiling rates in childcare programs from 175% to 209%, providing more children access to child care assistance services.

¹Note that nine budgetary items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 state respondents, more than half (55%, n=88) were self-identified as **Early Care & Education**. Nearly all of those 26 state respondents (83%, n=24) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. Of the 88 change items, half (50%, n=44) have passed, while 20% (n=18) are pending. Less than a quarter (18%, n=16) did not pass.

Some of those legislative / administrative changes include:

- **Arkansas** passed Act 506, which establishes a farm-to-school and early childhood education program within the Arkansas Agriculture Department, with goals of improving children’s nutrition and teaching them about gardens and farms in their own communities. The act authorizes the department to hire a full-time program coordinator, who would be responsible for incorporating more agriculture and nutrition education in schools and early childhood programs across the state.
- In **Texas** HB 3, the Legislature’s major school finance reform bill provides ongoing investments in early childhood education, including funding for full-day pre-K. It also establishes new kindergarten through third grade reading standards, directs districts to develop an early childhood literacy and mathematics proficiency plan, provides funding for districts to offer additional days of instruction to reduce summer slide in the early years, and narrows the number of approved kindergarten readiness assessments to ensure data can be easily compared across the state.
- The **Virginia** legislature passed an expansion of the Education Improvement Tax Credit Scholarship to include pre-K (SB1015- Stanley). These scholarships would be available to middle-income families (300% of poverty, or 400% if the child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP)) to attend preschool programs with demonstrated quality (Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE)-accredited, VA Quality level 3, or licensed and meeting other quality standards). The value of the scholarship would be the state share of the Virginia Preschool Initiative per pupil amount, ranging from \$3,163 in Fairfax County to \$5,219 in Lee County.
- **New York** passed a law amending the state’s election law to allow campaign funds to be used to pay child care expenses that are incurred in the campaign or in the execution of the duties of public office or party position. The legislature passed a bill that would authorize the state to undertake a cost estimation model to determine the cost of providing quality care, and another that would require all counties in New York to make child care subsidies available to parents who, because they work nontraditional hours, need access to child care so they can sleep. Both bills are awaiting signature from the Governor.
- **Georgia** has used additions to the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) to improve access to high-quality care by incentivizing infant-toddler care, expanding inclusion services, increasing workforce professional learning supports, and capping the family fee at 7% of a family’s income. Other policy changes include raising the base reimbursement rates for infant-toddler care to the 25th percentile of the market rate survey; adding 500 Quality Rated Subsidy Grant slots for infants and toddlers; adding six behavior support specialists (one per Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) region) to help teachers and other staff create and implement behavior support plans for children exhibiting intense, persistent, challenging behaviors; and implementing a centralized intake line (1-833-354-HELP) for teachers and other early education staff that will triage and route cases of extreme challenging behaviors to appropriate levels of support.

²Note that 10 legislative/administrative change items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 state respondents, 57% (n=119) were self-identified as **Early Care & Education**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 93% (n=28) indicated an item in this category. Across these 119 items, 29% (n=35) were focused on child care.

Some of those items include:

- Advocates in **Oregon** are focused on passing the Student Success Act, with 20% of revenue dedicated to early learning strategies (pre-K, Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Intervention-Early Childhood Special Education, home visiting, professional development and more).
- **Illinois** has prioritized increasing the Early Childhood Block Grant funding at the State Board of Education by \$100 million to expand access and strengthen program quality for prenatal-age-5 programs (included in the governor's proposed budget).
- **Washington** advocates are trying to increase flexibility in eligibility to state-funded pre-K and create allowable eligibility for families up to 130% of federal poverty level (FPL) and children transitioning from Early Head Start and Early Support for Infants & Toddlers (ESIT).
- In **Kansas**, advocates are prioritizing strengthening working family support programs by modifying eligibility policies for child care assistance, TANF cash assistance, and SNAP to ensure these programs can reach Kansas children and families in need.

Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 60% (n=78) were self-identified as **Early Care & Education**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 85% of the states (n=23) indicated a policy item in this category. Most of these items (42%, n=33) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (27%, n=21) or budgetary (23%, n=18).

Stories from the Field

In late 2018, we connected with Kelly Blucher, a parent of young children who was struggling with finding affordable child care solutions for her family. She received a subsidy but could not find anywhere that could take both of her children. She also was promoted through her work twice in the last year and has been on the verge of losing her subsidy. Most recently, her manageable copay increased to 55% of her income. We encouraged her to share her testimony to the State Legislature in response to the governor's proposed budget. She did and caught the ears of the Senate Majority Leader Andy Billig. Throughout session, her story was shared often by him and used in places where people were having a hard time understanding what the "benefits cliff" means to families in our state. Kelly continued to share her story – at other legislative committees, on the steps of the capitol at a rally for investing in affordable and accessible infant and toddler child care. She continues to advocate in her community and statewide when she gets the chance. She received a Champions for Children award through her community early learning coalition for her work and was awarded the Brewster C. Denny Rising Star award from The Children's Alliance for her approach to advocacy and sharing her story. She has been highlighted on two different news channels, interviewed by multiple newspapers and has been invited to several meetings to share her story. Her story was instrumental to the passage of rate increases for Washington's child care subsidies and the Child Care Access Now Act this year.

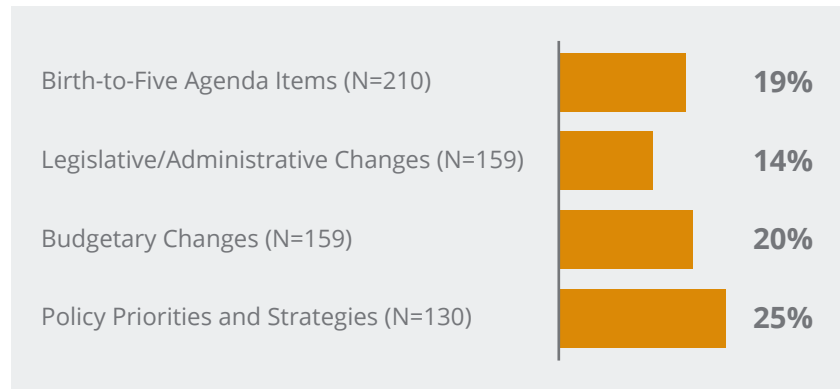
– Allison Krutsinger, Early Learning Policy Director at Children's Alliance (Washington)

³8% (n=6) of Early Care and Education tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

EARLY INTERVENTION (EI)

Legislation and funding for children with disabilities (e.g. IDEA Part C).

FIG 3: EARLY INTERVENTION



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, 20% (n=32) were self-identified as **Early Intervention**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 53% of the states (n=16) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these items (75%, n=24) have passed, with only 9% (n=3) pending and 9% (n=3) having not passed. Across these 32 budgetary items focused on Early Intervention, 63% (n=20) of the items focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Early Intervention programs.

Some of those budget items include:

- The **Illinois** budget included a \$12 million increase (12.4%) to the Early Intervention program at the Department of Human Services to accommodate the state's growing caseload and to increase reimbursement rates for all EI providers.
- The **New York** budget included a 5% increase in reimbursement rates for certain professionals providing Early Intervention services – occupational therapists, physical therapists and speech language pathologists. This marked the first time the state had provided an increase in Early Intervention reimbursement rates since the 1990s.
- The **California** budget included the Special Education Early Intervention Preschool Grant, which provides funds to Local Education Agencies (LEA) based on the number of 3- and 4-year-olds with exceptional needs, specifically students with IEPs. The grant requires ongoing funding to be contingent upon the passage of legislation in the 2020-2021 budget to reform the special education system to improve outcomes for students.
- **Colorado** saw an Early Intervention funding increase of \$3.3 million.
- **South Carolina** passed an additional \$22 million (almost 200% more) in funding for the state's IDEA part C program (Babynet).

⁴Note that three budgetary items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, very few (14%, n=23) were self-identified as **Early Intervention**. From the 26 state respondents, more than a third of states (35%, n=9) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. From these 23 change items, nearly half (48%, n=11) have passed, while 39% (n=9) are still pending. Less than a quarter (13%, n=3) did not pass.

Some of those legislative / administrative changes include:

- In **Georgia**, HR 421 created the House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health to study the prevention, early intervention and treatment of mental health challenges in young children.
- **Maine** successfully passed legislation for the implementation of a statewide Early Childhood Consultation program, in which early childhood mental health professionals work with teachers, providers and parents to promote appropriate social and emotional development and manage challenging behaviors in children to help them be more successful in the classroom.
- In **California**, AB 1004 (McCarty) would clarify that health care providers must use a validated screening tool and adhere to the American Academy of Pediatrics best practices on periodicity for developmental screening services made available under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit.
- In **Rhode Island**, legislation is pending that would develop and implement compensation strategies for infant/toddler educators, home visitors and EI.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 20% (n=40) were self-identified as **Early Intervention**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 53% of the states (n=16) indicated an item in this category. Across these 42 items, nearly one-third (31%, n=13) focused on learning and education.

Some of those items include:

- Advocates in **Maine** are continuing to advance key recommendations resulting from the social-emotional learning and development project, including a statewide early childhood consultation program.
- In **Nevada**, advocates are working to require the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to increase the number of child care providers willing and able to care for children with a documented disability.
- Advocates in **Texas** are advancing the Strengthen Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) for children under age 3 with disabilities and delays by ensuring enough funding and saving state taxpayer dollars by requiring commercial insurance to cover ECI services that are covered in Texas Medicaid.
- There is exploratory work in **Pennsylvania** advocating for increased state dollars for the state's birth-to-three and three-to-five EI programs, although this has been an area in which advocates have not recently been engaged.
- Advocates in **California** have prioritized adding developmental screenings to the Managed Care Organization (MCO) performance dashboard to better monitor the screenings being done under California's managed care plans.
- **Colorado** advocates are reforming the state's EI program to address the holistic needs of families and to support prevention rather than just intervention once a delay has occurred.

RESULTS

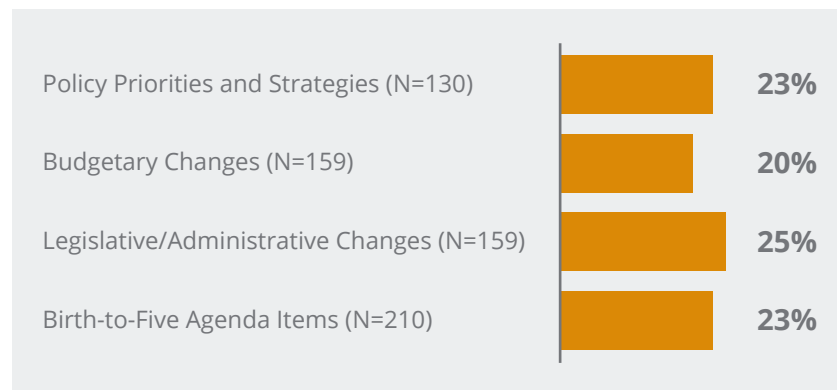
Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 25% (n=33) were self-identified as **Early Intervention**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 67% of the states (n=18) indicated a policy item in in this category. Most of these items (45%, n=15) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (27%, n=9) or budgetary (21%, n=7).

⁵6% of Early Intervention tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

INFANT & MATERNAL HEALTH

Programs and funding related to physical health, including reducing the rates of infant and maternal mortality and morbidity.

FIG 4: INFANT & MATERNAL HEALTH



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, 20% (n=32) were self-identified as **Infant & Maternal Health**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 53% of the states (n=16) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these items (75%, n=24) have passed through legislation, with only 9% (n=3) pending and 9% (n=3) having not passed. Across these 32 budgetary items, 59% (n=19) of the items focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Infant and Maternal programs.

Some of those budget changes include:

- **Arizona** appropriated \$1.7 million in FY2020, and \$9.4 million in FY2021 and FY2022 to eliminate the looming freeze of the KidsCare program, the federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) dollars appropriated to Arizona to provide access to health care for children under age 19 whose parents do not qualify for Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System but are uninsured. The state also appropriated \$1 million to the Department of Health Services to establish a grant for rural hospitals to purchase sonogram and telemedicine equipment for providing care to pregnant women.
- **Georgia's** budget included \$1.75 million to address maternal mortality, including \$1.05 million to screen for, refer and treat maternal depression and related behavioral disorders in rural and underserved areas, \$200,000 for additional nurse abstractors for the Maternal Mortality Review Committee, and \$500,000 to create the Center of Excellence on Maternal Mortality at Morehouse School of Medicine. The budget also included \$600,000 to establish three perinatal support satellites in three counties with consistently poor outcomes for infant mortality, low birthweight, prematurity and inadequate prenatal care access.
- **Texas** lawmakers approved a \$7 million general revenue increase for Department of State Health Services maternal health initiatives, including pregnancy medical home, maternal safety bundles (at hospitals), initiatives for high-risk pregnant women, and prevention and public awareness activities.
- The **Florida** budget included a \$34.7 million increase for Healthy Kids.

⁶Note that two budgetary items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

- The **California** budget included \$250 million one-time Proposition 56 funding for payments in the Value-Based Payment program over the next several years. The program offers financial incentives to health care providers who improve their performance on predetermined measures or meet specified targets that focus on quality and efficiency of care.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, a quarter of the items (25%, n=40) were self-identified as **Infant & Maternal Health**. Half of the 26 state respondents (50%, n=13) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. Of the 40 change items, half of them (50%, n=20) have passed, while a quarter (25%, n=10) are still pending. Less than 23% (n=9) did not pass.

Some of those legislative / administrative changes include:

- **Arizona** established an advisory committee to recommend improvements to information collection concerning the incidence and causes of maternal fatalities and severe maternal morbidity.
- **Illinois'** budget implementation bill included language to ensure that young children exposed to lead are eligible for EI services. The state also passed a series of bills addressing maternal and infant morbidity and mortality and existing racial disparities.
- In **Georgia**, HR 589 created the House Study Committee on Maternal Mortality to develop strategies and institute systemic changes to decrease and prevent maternal deaths.
- **Maine** passed three bills addressing the danger posed to child exposure to lead through the strengthening of the Lead Poisoning Control Act, a bill to expand access to lead screenings at well-child visits for 1- and 2-year-olds, and legislation requiring public schools to test drinking water regularly for levels of lead.
- In **California**, pending legislation (SB 464) would direct hospitals that provide perinatal care to implement implicit-bias training programs that identify existing provider biases, create measures to decrease implicit biases and stereotypes, and develop more culturally inclusive and appropriate communications and service delivery strategies.
- **Texas** passed SB 952, which updates minimum child care standards for nutrition and active play to align with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Heart Association and American Public Health Association.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 23% (n=48) were self-identified as **Infant & Maternal Health**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 60% of the states (n=18) indicated an item in this category.

Some of those items include:

- **Texas** advocates are working on improving the safety and quality of child care by setting effective maximum child care group size and child-caregiver ratios and ensuring the state collects data on these quality indicators in licensed child care. Advocates are also focused on preventing maternal deaths, reducing dangerous pregnancy complications, and supporting healthy mothers and babies by improving

⁷Note that 10 legislative/administrative change items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

RESULTS

access to insurance coverage during the year after giving birth and during time between pregnancies.

- In **Nevada**, advocates would like to update reporting requirements regarding the levels of lead in the blood of a child. Additionally, they are working to create a fund that increases the availability of nutritious foods and physical activity opportunities at child care facilities.
- Advocates in **Maryland** are working to expand support for care coordination services for low-income pregnant women, postpartum women and their children from birth to age 3.
- **Pennsylvania** advocates are beginning efforts to build a campaign calling for a statewide lead testing mandate for children before age 2.

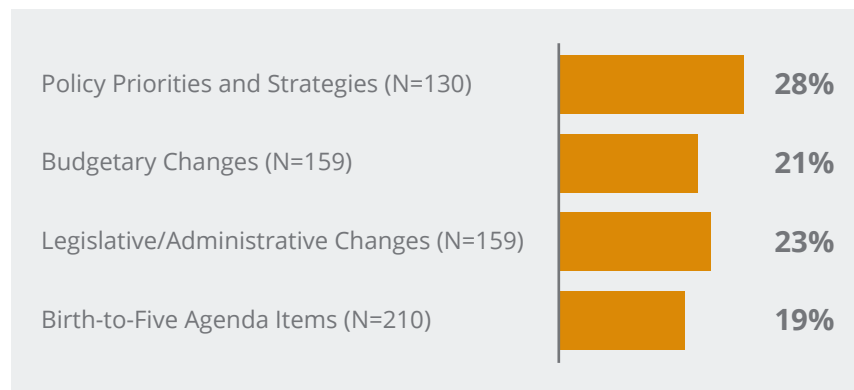
Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 23% (n=30) were self-identified as **Infant & Maternal Health**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 70% of the states (n=19) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items (50%, n=15) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (20%, n=6) or budgetary (17%, n=5).⁸

⁸13% (n=4) of Infant and Maternal Health tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

MENTAL, EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Budget actions and legislative changes related to school discipline policies (e.g. suspension and expulsion), mental health consultation, maternal depression and other similar topics.

FIG 5: MENTAL, EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, 21% (n=34) were self-identified as **Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 37% of the states (n=11) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these items (74%, n=25) have passed through legislation, with only 12% (n=4) pending and 12% (n=4) having not passed. Across these 34 budgetary items focused on Mental, Emotional and Behavioral Health, more than half (53%, n=18) of the items focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health programs.

Some of those budget changes include:

- The **Maine** budget included \$840,000 for the implementation of a statewide Early Childhood Consultation program, where early childhood mental health professionals work with teachers, providers and parents to promote appropriate social and emotional development and manage challenging behaviors in children to help them be more successful in the classroom.
- The **Virginia** budget includes \$1.23 million per year to build out statewide capacity for the Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP). VMAP will improve the identification and treatment of children's mental health needs by offering physicians specialized children's mental health training, access to on-demand behavioral health consultation services with child psychiatrists, and care coordination to identify regional mental health resources (like outpatient therapy) for children in need.
- **California** passed the Special Education Early Intervention Preschool Grant, which provides funds to LEAs based on the number of 3- and 4-year-olds with exceptional needs, specifically students with IEPs. The budget also provides \$40.8 million (\$27.2 million federal funds and \$13.6 million Proposition 56 funds) to Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) screenings for children and adults in the Medi-Cal program and \$53.9 million (\$30.8 million federal funds and \$23.1 million Proposition 56 funds) for DHCS to increase developmental screenings for children.

⁹Note that one budgetary item did not list whether it had passed, not passed or was pending.

RESULTS

- The **Kansas** budget included matching funds to meet federal requirements for the Family First Prevention Services Act, allowing flexibility for the state to fund prevention services keeping families intact and children out of foster care.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, almost a quarter of the items (23%, n=36) were self-identified as **Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health**. Of the 26 state respondents, almost half (46%, n=12) indicated a legislative/administrative change in this category. From these 36 change items, more than half (53%, n=19) have passed, while a third of the change items (33%, n=12) are still pending. Less than a quarter (14%, n=5) did not pass.

Some of those legislative and administrative changes include:

- **Georgia** passed HR 421, which created the House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health to study the prevention, early intervention and treatment of mental health challenges in young children.
- **Maine** passed legislation to implement a statewide Early Childhood Consultation program, where early childhood mental health professionals work with teachers, providers and parents to promote appropriate social and emotional development and manage challenging behaviors in children to help them be more successful in the classroom.
- **Texas** passed HB 65, which directs the Texas Education Agency to collect information from school districts about out-of-school suspensions, including the basis for suspensions, number of days students were suspended, and number of suspensions that were inconsistent with the student code of conduct.
- **California** passed AB 1004, which clarifies that health care providers must use a validated screening tool and adhere to the American Academy of Pediatrics best practices on periodicity for developmental screening services made available under the EPSDT benefit.
- **Colorado** passed HB 19-1193, which creates a child care services and substance use disorder treatment pilot program within Colorado Department of Human Services and awards grant funding to pilot child care navigation and mobile child care models for pregnant or parenting individuals seeking or participating in substance use disorder treatment.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 state advocates, 19% (n=40) were self-identified as **Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health**. Of the 30 state respondents, approximately 57% of the states (n=17) indicated an item in this category.

Some of those items include:

- Advocates in **Maine** continue to advance key recommendations resulting from the social-emotional learning and development project, including a statewide early childhood consultation program.
- Advocates in **Colorado** continue work to ensure all children get a healthy start, with a focus on mental and behavioral health, and supports to ensure successful implementation of recently passed early childhood discipline policies.
- **Nevada** advocates are working to require the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the number of child care providers willing and able to care for children with a documented disability.

RESULTS

- **New Jersey** advocates are working to ensure resources and services are available to foster infants' social and emotional health.

Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 28% (n=36) were self-identified as Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 78% of the states (n=21) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items (42%, n=15) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (36%, n=13) or budgetary (17%, n=6). Across all 36 policy items, approximately 20% (n=7) had to do with the expansion and access of Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health in their states.

Stories from the Field

The Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS) worked with Representative Katie Dempsey to pass HR 421 during the 2019 legislative session, which created the House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health. The Study Committee will analyze the prevention, early intervention and treatment of the mental health challenges that young children in Georgia face. The Study Committee will begin meeting this fall, and GEEARS has been involved in the planning process. Through the work of the Study Committee, GEEARS is hopeful that Medicaid and CHIP will begin covering mental health services for children birth to age 4 (currently coverage for mental health services starts at 4), including language that specifies the coverage of therapies and parenting programs that focus on child/caregiver relationships. Representative Dempsey, who has been named chair of the Committee, is proving an incredible ally for young children and their families.

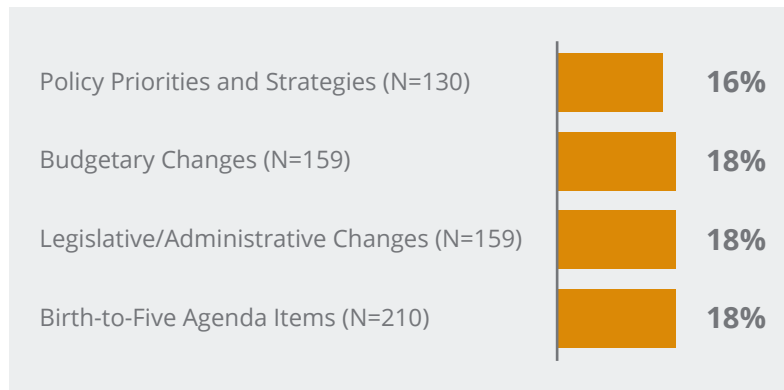
– Mindy Binderman, Founding Executive Director at Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS)

¹⁰6% (n=2) of Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Health tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

FAMILY RESILIENCY

Supports for families with young children, including paid family leave, TANF, WIC, SNAP, CHIP and Medicaid.

FIG 6: FAMILY RESILIENCY



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, 18% (n=29) were self-identified as **Family Resiliency**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 33% of the states (n=10) indicated a budgetary item in this category. More than 70%, (72%, n=21) have passed through legislation, with only 14% (n=4) having not passed. Three (10%) budgetary items are pending approval. One budgetary item did not list whether it had passed, not passed or was still pending. Across these 29 budgetary items in this category, 69% (n=20) of the items focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Family Resiliency.

Some of these budget changes include:

- In **Virginia**, the General Assembly increased the payment amount for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families by 5%, a \$3.2 million investment. For most kinship families, child-only TANF is the only program from which they receive financial assistance.
- **South Carolina** passed an additional \$5.5 million in state funding to cover increases in enrollment eligibility and a reduction in federal funds for CHIP.
- In **Pennsylvania**, the budget included a \$30.3 million increase (all state dollars) for CHIP. This was the first in a two-year rollback of enhanced federal match from 89% to 67%. Another similar allocation of state funds will be required next year.
- The **Colorado** budget included a \$500,000 increase in Family Resource Center funding.
- The **California** budget increases CalWORKs grant levels by 13.1%, which will bring monthly grant payments to 50% of the projected 2019 federal poverty level. The budget includes \$347.6 million in General Funding in 2019-2020 (\$455.4 million in General Funding annually thereafter) to fund this grant increase.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, only 18% (n=29) were self-identified as **Family Resiliency**. From the 26 state respondents, 10 of them (38%) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. From these 29 change items, more than half (52%, n=15) have passed, while over a third (34%, n=10) are still pending. Only 10% (n=3) did not pass.

Some of those legislative / administrative changes include:

- **Hawaii** passed a paid family leave study that extends the deadline for the Legislative Reference Bureau to submit the sunrise analysis required by Act 109, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, from September 1 – November 13, 2019 (HB32 CD1).
- **New Jersey** increased its paid family leave law from six weeks to 12 weeks.
- **Illinois** passed HB2237, creating a Children’s Savings Account program, which would automatically open a savings account for every child born or adopted in Illinois.
- In **California**, legislation is pending that would condemn the Trump administration’s proposed “public charge” rule that would have a devastating effect on communities across the country by driving up hunger, poverty and unmet health care needs, and urge the administration to rescind the rule expansion.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 18% (n=37) were self-identified as **Family Resiliency**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 60% of the states (n=18) indicated a Family Resiliency item. Across these 37 items, over 27% (n=10) were directly related to child care.

Some of those items include:

- Advocates in **Hawaii** are working on a bill that would establish a family leave insurance program to provide 16 weeks of partial wage replacement, based on a sliding scale.
- **New Hampshire** advocates support infrastructure for a statewide system of family resource centers.
- Advocates in **Virginia** have prioritized increasing TANF payment rates for low-income working families and kinship caregivers.
- **Maryland** is incorporating recommendations from a blue-ribbon task force to follow the enactment of paid parental leave for state employees in 2018. The state also is establishing an insurance fund to provide partial wage replacement for those taking time away from work to care for new babies, loved ones with serious health conditions or disabilities, or themselves.
- Advocates are trying to strengthen **New York’s** working family tax credits – beginning with its child tax credit (the Empire State Child Credit). This will help reduce child poverty by expanding the credit to cover children under age 4 (who are currently excluded from the credit).

Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 16% (n=21) were self-identified as **Family Resiliency**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 48% of the states (n=13) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items (62%, n=8) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (53%, n=7) or budgetary (46%, n=6). Across all 21 Family Resiliency policy items, more than half (57%, n=12) of the items, focused on children and toddlers.

¹¹Note that 10 legislative/administrative change items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were still pending.

Stories from the Field

After repeated attempts in previous sessions, and for the first time in nearly 20 years, the General Assembly enacted a dramatic expansion of Maryland's Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit. This legislation raises the income eligibility limits for filers, making the tax credit available to individuals earning up to \$92,000 and married couples earning up to \$143,000. In future years, the caps and the credit amounts will also be adjusted for inflation.

The cap was previously set at \$50,000, or \$25,000 for married individuals filing separately. And yet, Maryland Family Network (MFN) has consistently documented that the high cost of child care burdens families who earn considerably more than \$50,000. In every jurisdiction, child care ranks among the top three household expenses.

Also for the first time, filers at the lower end of the eligibility scale (with incomes under \$50,000 for individuals, or \$75,000 for married couples) can now receive refunds if their credit exceeds their tax liability. National advocates consider this refundable feature a hallmark of the best state child care tax credit policies.

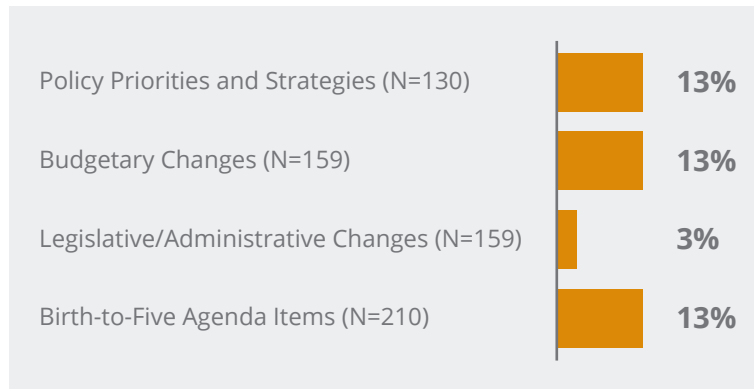
The legislation was sponsored, as in the past, by Sen. Nancy King and Del. Ariana Kelly, longtime child care champions. Their bills received unanimous support in the Senate and House of Delegates after being designated part of a package of priorities by the General Assembly's presiding officers. For casual observers, that might obscure the years of prior effort. It should instead be seen as a tribute.

- Clinton Macsherry, Director of Public Policy at Maryland Family Network

HOME VISITING

Any legislative, administrative and / or budgetary changes related to home visiting.

FIG 7: HOME VISITING



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 state respondents, only 13% (n=20) were self-identified as **Home Visiting**. Of the 30 state respondents, approximately 43% (n=13) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of budgetary items (80%, n=16) have passed through legislation, with only 15% (n=3) having not passed and one change item pending. Of the 20 budgetary items in this category, 45% (n=9) of the items focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Home Visiting.

Some of these budget changes include:

- In **Pennsylvania**, home visiting received a \$5 million increase in the Community-Based Family Centers line item, which is the amount the governor proposed. In the past three years, PA Partnerships for Children (PPC) has worked in a coalition focused on home visiting funding. State advocates have since secured an additional \$16.5 million, or a 480% increase between the family center line and the dedicated line for Nurse Family Partnership.
- **Texas** lawmakers approved an additional \$5 million over the biennium for home visiting, including increases for HOPES and Nurse Family Partnership.
- **Washington** passed \$7.6 million to expand access to a portfolio of home visiting services.
- **Oregon** passed funding for universal Family Connects to provide all new parents with the option of a nurse home visit after the birth of a child.
- **Wisconsin** increased funding for home visiting by \$500,000 in the first year and \$2.5 million in the second year to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect through the Family Foundations Home Visiting program.
- **California** passed funding for the Black Infant Health Program. This provides a \$7.5 million ongoing General Fund and an additional \$12 million in DHCS reimbursements for Medi-Cal eligible activities in the Black Infant Health Program and the California Prenatal Equity Initiative. This funding is to improve African-American infant and maternal health through case management services, including home visiting.

¹²Note that two budgetary items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, only 2% (n=4) were self-identified as **Home Visiting**. From the 26 state respondents, only three states (12%) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. All four of the change items (100%) are still pending. These pending items include:

- In **South Carolina**, the Pay for Success Performance Accountability Act would facilitate the state's engagement in future Pay for Success projects. The state's first such project expanded quality postpartum nurse home visiting, and a pending project would expand a suite of early childhood services. This passed the state Senate and is under consideration in the House.
- In **Rhode Island**, legislation is pending to develop and implement compensation strategies for infant/toddler educators, home visitors and EI.
- **Maine's** pending legislation would create the First 4 ME Early Care and Education program to provide comprehensive, high-quality early care and education services for at-risk children who have not yet entered school. The bill is based on an Early Head Start Child Care partnership grant that created the Elevate Maine project in Skowhegan.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 13% (n=27) were self-identified as **Home Visiting**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 50% of the states (n=15) indicated an item in this category. Across these 27 items, almost 50% (n=13) are directly related to home visiting. Approximately 22% (n=6) were directly related to budget and/or funding and education and/or learning.

Some of those items include:

- **New Hampshire** is working to expand access to Medicaid home visiting.
- **Tennessee** and **New Jersey** are expanding evidence-based home visiting.
- **Virginia** is focusing its home visiting expansion on at-risk families.
- **Rhode Island** is working to increase state funding for evidence-based home visiting programs so all pregnant and parenting families facing significant challenges can participate.

Of 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 13% (n=17) were self-identified as **Home Visiting**. Of 27 state respondents, approximately 56% of (n=15) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of items (47%, n=8) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (29%, n=5) or budgetary (18%, n=3).

Stories from the Field

The Pennsylvania state budget again included increases to offer evidence-based home visiting models to a collective coalition table with other child advocacy groups. Through Childhood Begins at Home, in the three years of its existence, we have been able to secure \$16.5 million in increased funding, or a 480% increase. This occurred partially during a time of budget deficits, and especially during a time when significant funding expansions are not occurring. If anything, it speaks to the effectiveness of bringing all the models together with other advocacy groups, providing policymakers with localized unmet need data, engaging both grass-tops and grassroots mobilization strategies, implementing effective communications tools and honing our bipartisan government-relations tactics.

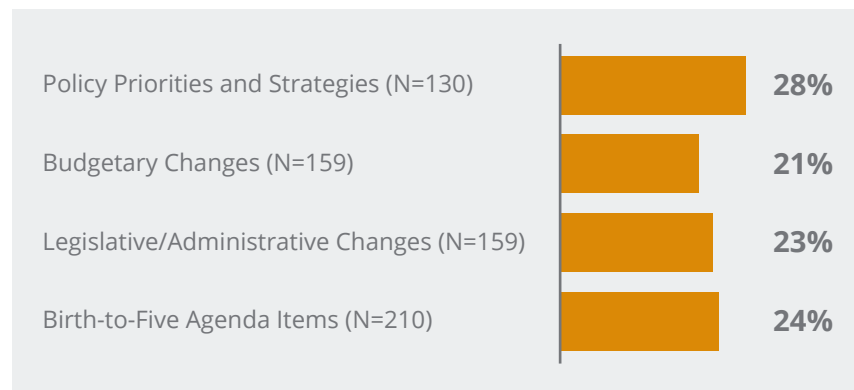
– Kari King, President and CEO at Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children (PPC)

¹³6% (n=1) of Early Care and Education tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

WORKFORCE & HIGHER EDUCATION

Budget actions or legislation related to professional development, training, wages, higher education, core competencies and similar topics.

FIG 8: WORKFORCE & HIGHER EDUCATION



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, only 21% (n=34) were self-identified as **Workforce & Higher Education**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 40% of the states (n=12) indicated a budgetary item in this category. More than half of these budgetary items (68%, n=23) have passed through legislation, with only 15% (n=5) of the items pending and 15% (n=5) having not passed. Across the 34 budgetary items in this category, less than half (47%, n=16) focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space for Workforce & Higher Education.

Some of those budget changes include:

- The **Massachusetts** budget included \$20 million for rate increases and \$5 million for workforce grants to community colleges. FY20 is the sixth consecutive year the budget has included a rate reserve or rate increase for early educator salaries.
- In **Maine**, there is a pending budget item for \$1 million that would stabilize the home visiting workforce by bringing salaries of home visitors in line with comparable positions and reduce any waiting lists for home visiting services to provide child development education and skills development for new parents. This was carried over to the second legislative session.
- The **Georgia** budget included \$15,003,985 to increase salaries for lead teachers in pre-K classrooms by \$3,000.
- **Colorado** passed an Early Childhood Educator Tax Credit: \$5.3 million in the first year of implementation.
- **California** approved funding for Trauma Screening Provider Training, recognizing the need to train providers who will be administering screenings for trauma for children and adults. The budget provides \$50 million (\$25 million federal funds and \$25 million Proposition 56 funds) for this purpose.

¹⁴Note that one budgetary item did not list whether it had passed, not passed or was pending.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, less than a quarter (23%, n=37) were self-identified as **Workforce & Higher Education**. From the 26 state respondents, more than half of the states (54%, n=14) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. From these 37 change items, nearly half of the change items (49%, n=18) have passed, while 32% (n=12) are still pending. Less than a quarter (19%, n=7) did not pass.

Some of the legislative / administrative changes include:

- In **Massachusetts**, the FY19 state budget created a workforce council at the Department of Early Education and Care. This cross-sector council of stakeholders consists of legislators, businesses, providers and advocates. The council meets monthly to hear updates from agency staff and provide feedback and input on the design and implementation of Early Education and Care's (EEC) workforce development systems.
- **Illinois** passed SB1952, which eliminates the Basic Skills Test requirement for future teachers and allows for the payment of student teachers in schools and child care centers.
- **New Jersey** passed a minimum wage increase to \$15 an hour.
- **Florida** passed legislation that requires the Office of Early Learning to develop early learning professional development training and course standards to assess school readiness of program providers. The office must also identify formal and informal early learning career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications, which allow early childhood teachers to access specialized professional development.
- **California** has pending legislation that would create streamlined standards for professional support stipends provided under California's AB 212 program, based on the early care and education field's best practices to support professional development of teachers and higher education attainment, and expand these stipends to more providers.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 24% (n=50) were self-identified as **Workforce & Higher Education**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 67% of the states (n=20) indicated an item in this category. Across these 50 items, 30% (n=15) were directly related to child care. Approximately 22% (n=11) were directly related to education and/or learning.

Some of those items include:

- **Arkansas** is building momentum to pass legislation supporting the early childhood workforce during the 2021 legislative session, including a tax credit incentive for early childhood educators based on their educational attainment and credentials.
- **California** is developing a single, regionalized state reimbursement rate system that compensates teachers and programs for the cost of providing care. The system is responsive to the economic diversity of California, recognizes the costs of meeting varying quality standards, regulations and contracting burdens, and incentivizes quality and participation in research-based quality improvement efforts to improve child outcomes.
- **Massachusetts** is working on workforce compensation and professional development through investments in the state budget and policy development at the Department of Early Education and Care.
- **Wisconsin** is growing a stable and well-qualified workforce of early educators by increasing funding for the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarship and REWARD Stipend program by \$1.6 million to eliminate current waiting lists.

RESULTS

- Advocates in **Hawaii** are working on bills that would require licensure for school psychologists and establish a licensing and regulatory process for midwifery.

Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 28% (n=36) were self-identified as **Workforce & Higher Education**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 63% of the states (n=17) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items (50%, n=18) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (14%, n=5) or budgetary (33%, n=12).¹⁵

Stories from the Field

Bess, a young early childhood educator in Wisconsin, is a single mom working in child care full time and engaged in credit-based coursework who attended the 2019 NAEYC Public Policy Forum. Bess sought out this opportunity, and fully funded her travel to D.C. for this important event and brought energy and commitment to her work with us. Never having told her story to a legislator before, she spoke with emotion and conviction to her senators and representative on Capitol Hill. She shared her personal journey and linked it seamlessly to a call for lifting the non-defense discretionary spending caps, increased funding for CCDBG, and reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. With tears and yet an unwavering voice, she told of dear colleagues who left the field of early childhood because they could not support their families, of the sacrifices she has made to stay in the field, of her dream of a different reality for early childhood educators, and of the important work she does with children daily. Following the Public Policy Forum, we supported Bess in testifying to our Joint Finance Committee during state budget hearings. We are currently recruiting Bess to participate in a new Teacher Cohort we are forming with grassroots advocacy support from the Alliance for Early Success. Bess is a powerful emerging leader. She worked with her local technical college to secure funding to bring the "No Small Matter" documentary to her community and recruited Rachel Giannini from the documentary to travel to Rhinelander, Wisconsin to conduct two professional development sessions with local child care providers. Bess is a shining example of how to best engage the early childhood workforce in advocating for policy and investments to improve our work.

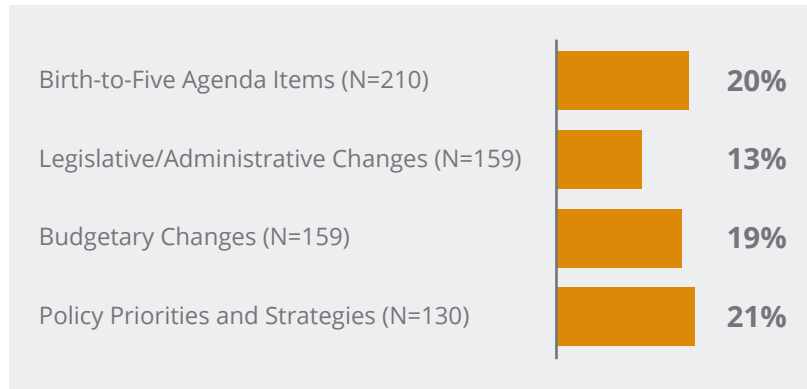
– Ruth Schmidt, Executive Director at Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

¹⁵3% (n=1) of Workforce and Higher Education tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

REVENUE

Tax credits, funding streams, new and/or increased allocations for early childhood.

FIG 9: REVENUE



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, only 19% (n=30) were self-identified as having to do with **Revenue**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 40% of the states (n=12) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these budgetary items (63%, n=19) have passed through legislation, with only 17% (n=5) having not passed and 13% (n=4) still pending.¹⁶

Some of those budget changes include:

- **Oregon** passed the Student Success Act, with 20% of the revenue dedicated to early learning strategies (pre-K, Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Intervention-Early Childhood Special Education, home visiting, professional development and more).
- In **Louisiana**, a 3% excise tax on each retail sale of industrial hemp-derived CBD products within the state will go to the Early Childhood Education Trust Fund. The state will also be dedicating the excise taxes from sports betting and fantasy sports betting to the Early Childhood Education trust fund.
- In **Maine**, Governor Janet Mills proposed a bond package that includes \$5 million to support a child care facilities bond. The bond will support grants and low-interest loans for expansion of new child care facilities. The program, if passed by voters, would be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, only 13% (n=21) were self-identified as **Revenue**. From the 26 state respondents, only eight states (31%) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. From these 21 change items, more than half (51%, n=11) have passed, while 19% (n=4) are still pending. Less than a quarter (19%, n=4) did not pass.

¹⁶Note that two budgetary items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

Some of those legislative / administrative changes include:

- The **Virginia** legislature passed an expansion of the Education Improvement Tax Credit Scholarship to pre-K (SB1015 - Stanley). These scholarships are available to middle-income families (300% of poverty, or 400% if the child has an IEP) to attend preschool programs with demonstrated quality (VCPE-accredited, VA Quality level 3, or licensed and meeting other quality standards). The value of the scholarship will be the state share of the VPI per pupil amount, ranging from \$3,163 in Fairfax County to \$5,219 in Lee County.
- **Colorado** passed the child care expenses tax credit for an additional eight years. The existing credit targeted to families earning less than \$25,000 who cannot benefit from the general state tax credit due to the nonrefundability of the federal tax credit.
- In **Nebraska**, a new law allows communities to access economic development grants for community centers to support early childhood programs.
- **Kentucky** passed funding for all-day preschool through pre-K collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care.
- In **Massachusetts**, there is a new proposal for universal access to affordable, high-quality early education and child care, including care during nonstandard work hours and appropriate professional development and compensation for early education and care providers. The proposed plan utilizes a sliding scale fee structure with no family paying more than 7% of its income.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 20% (n=42) were self-identified as **Revenue**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 70% of the states (n=21) indicated an item in this category. Across these 42 items, approximately 30% (n=13) were directly related to education and/or learning. Approximately 21% (n=9) were directly related to child care and budget and/or funding.

Some of those items include:

- Advocates in **Hawaii** are working on a bill to expand the existing Hawaii Dependent Care Tax Credit by raising the amount of the tax credit and increasing the income limits used to calculate a family's benefit amount so low-income families can receive a more meaningful benefit. They are also working on a bill to eliminate the Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) tax loophole to increase revenue for affordable housing, schools, roads or other community needs.
- Advocates in **Maine** are supporting and promoting state-funded Head Start, Maine Families/home visiting, child care and public preschool as critical elements in the state's early childhood system.
- **Oklahoma** is working to secure funding through the Preschool Develop Grant (Birth-Five) to support and enhance early care and education systems based on a comprehensive needs assessment and five-year strategic plan.
- **Mississippi** is developing a sustainable funding source for coaching.

¹⁷Note that 10 legislative/administrative change items did not list whether they had passed, not passed or were pending.

RESULTS

Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 21% (n=27) were self-identified as **Revenue**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 52% of the states (n=14) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items (52%, n=14) were legislative policy items, and the remaining were either administrative (7%, n=2) or budgetary (26%, n=7)¹⁸.

Stories from the Field

Our biggest win in 2019 was expanded state general revenue funding to sustain and expand our high-quality state pre-K program.

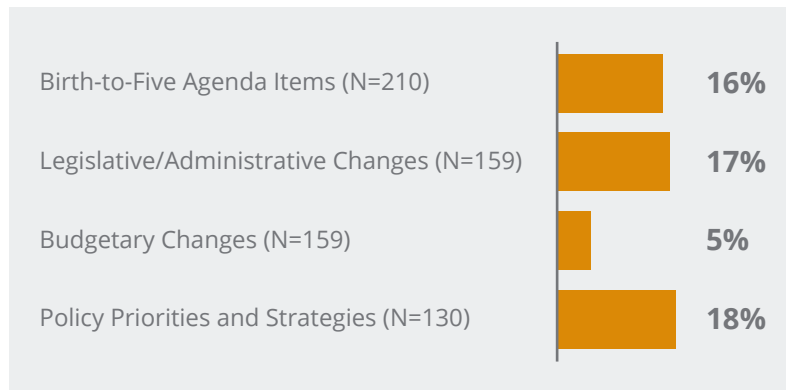
– Leanne Barrett, Executive Director at Rhode Island KIDS COUNT

¹⁸15% (n=4) of Revenue tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

GOVERNANCE

Budget actions and legislation related to special districts, governing boards, legislative councils and similar topics.

FIG 10: GOVERNANCE



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, only 5% (n=8) were self-identified as **Governance**. Out of the 30 state respondents, only four states (13%) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these budgetary items (75%, n=6) have passed through legislation, with the other quarter (n=2) having not passed. Across these eight budgetary items in this category, 25% of the changes (n=2) focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space in this category.

Some of the budget changes include:

- **Oregon** created a task force to develop a plan for improving child care.
- **California** established a council to advise the governor, the legislature and the superintendent of public instruction on statewide early learning and care policy, building on the work of the state’s Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and the 2019 California Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Final Report. The council shall include 27 appointed members, as specified. The council shall consult with a parent advisory committee and a workforce advisory committee. The California Department of Education (CDE) shall provide staffing to the council, and up to \$300,000 of funds provided to the Council may be used for this purpose.
- **California** also passed funding that provides \$10 million in one-time General Fund for the CDE, Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Human Resources and Public Employment Relations Board for costs associated with implementing child care organizing. Funding requires each department to submit expenditure plans and allocate funds contingent on Department of Finance (DOF) approval and notification of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. It also requires CDE and DSS to collect contact information for child care providers to make available to provider organizations.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, only 17% (n=27) were self-identified as **Governance**. From the 26 state respondents, 10 states (38%) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. From these 27 change items, more than a third (37%, n=10) have passed, while 30% (n=8) are still pending. A third of the change items (33%, n=9) did not pass.

Some of the legislative / administrative changes include:

- The **Massachusetts** state budget created a workforce council at the Department of Early Education and Care. This cross-sector council of stakeholders consists of legislators, businesses, providers and advocates. The council meets monthly to hear updates from agency staff and provide feedback and input on the design and implementation of EEC's workforce development systems.
- **Arkansas** experienced perhaps the biggest legislative change affecting its early childhood education system – Act 910: Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019. This 2,047-page law will cut the number of cabinet-level state agencies from 42 to 15. As part of this act, all education-related agencies and programs will soon be merged into the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), which traditionally has governed K-12 public schools. The Arkansas Better Chance (ABC) pre-K program, which is currently operated by the Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE), will soon be part of the Department of Education.
- Legislation is pending in **South Carolina** to create a Department of Early Development and Education, bringing together programs focused on early childhood from several other agencies. A related study committee was established to consider early childhood governance issues during the summer/fall legislative recess.
- In **Nevada**, Senate Bill 84, as passed, allows for and provides guidance to the Department of Education to oversee and manage the state's pre-k program.
- In **Colorado**, HB 19-1052 allows local communities to collaborate to establish special districts to provide birth-to-age 8 services across the domains of the EC framework.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 16% (n=33) were self-identified as **Governance**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 40% of the states (n=12) indicated an item in this category. Across these 33 items, approximately 46% (n=15) were directly related to education and/or learning.

Some of those items include:

- Advocates in **South Dakota** are supporting a House bill that would create a state Early Learning Advisory Council in 2021.
- **Arkansas** is working to create a bipartisan early childhood legislative caucus that develops a package of legislation to be introduced in the 2021 legislative session.
- Advocates in **Virginia** have prioritized identifying the framework to expand access to and improve quality in all early childhood settings. This vision should articulate a process for the alignment of program goals and governance, collaborative data sharing and measuring success.
- **Kansas** is participating through gubernatorial and Senate leadership appointments on the Children's Cabinet and Education Council to chart a course for improved early education systems and data alignment.
- **Louisiana** is monitoring the Ready Start Networks, which are pilots of potential local governance structures for early care and education, as well as supports and services for young children.
- Advocates in **Tennessee** are establishing an Early Education Caucus in the General Assembly.

RESULTS

Out of the 130 policy priorities provided by 27 states, 18% (n=23) were self-identified as **Governance**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 63% of the states (n=17) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items (43%, n=10) were legislative policy items and administrative items, and the remaining were budgetary (4%, n=1).¹⁹

Stories from the Field

The creation of our early childhood department culminates years of advocacy efforts. It included research to develop an early childhood business plan for the state, numerous community conversations to develop broad-based consensus around a policy agenda aligned to the business plan, behind-the-scenes advocacy with individual policymakers, and leveraging / activating the state's early childhood caucus. The "elevating early childhood campaign" throughout the fall helped pave the way for the incoming governor to lend her support to the effort. Her political capital, along with significant effort from the lieutenant governor and several champions within the legislature, help successfully move this bill.

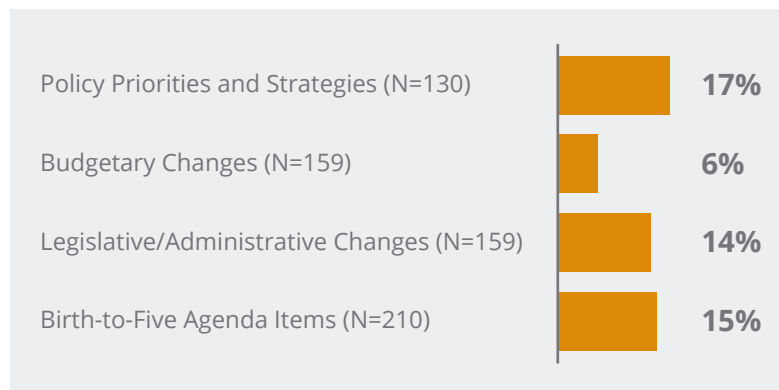
– Michael Weinberg, Early Childhood Education Policy Officer at Thornburg Foundation (New Mexico)

¹⁹8% of Early Care and Education tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

DATA

Budget actions or legislation related to needs assessments, systems integration, state and district-level reporting, Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), state-funded studies and similar topics.

FIG 11: DATA



Budgetary Changes

Out of the 159 budgetary items provided by 30 states, only 6% (n=9) were self-identified as having to do with **Data**. Out of the 30 state respondents, 13% of the states (n=4) indicated a budgetary item in this category. The majority of these budgetary items (89%, n=8) have passed through legislation, with only one item having not passed. Across the nine budgetary items in this category, nearly half (44%, n=4) focused on increasing or adding additional funding or space.

Some of those budget items include:

- **California's** budget provides a \$10 million one-time, non-Proposition 98 General Fund available for encumbrance and expenditure through FY2021-2022 to plan for and develop the California Cradle-to-Career Data System. This system will connect student information from early education providers, K-12 schools, higher education institutions, employers, other workforce entities and health and human services agencies. Funding shall be provided to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research to contract with planning facilitators to lead a workgroup comprised of representatives from education, workforce, health agencies, among others. By July 1, 2020, the workgroup shall report to the DOF and the legislature on the proposed structure of the data system, including governance, architecture and functionality of the system. By January 1, 2021, the workgroup shall report to the DOF and the legislature on additional details regarding the data system.
- **Colorado's** budget included \$6 million for a Census Outreach Grant Program.

Legislative / Administrative Changes

Out of 159 legislative / administrative change items provided by 26 states, 14% (n=22) were self-identified as **Data**. From the 26 state respondents, almost half (46%, n=12) indicated a legislative / administrative change in this category. From these 22 change items, almost half (45%, n=10) have passed, while 36% (n=8) are still pending. Less than a quarter (18%, n=4) did not pass.

Some of those legislative / administrative changes include:

- **Maine** passed legislation to convene a stakeholder group to determine the state's capacity to provide EPSDT.

- In **Texas**, HB 680 assigns a unique child identification number to children in the subsidized child care program, which is also assigned to children in the public school system, in an effort to connect these children from birth through high school (and beyond). The bill also mandated data reporting and transparency related to our subsidy and QRIS programs, more meaningful professional development paid for with public dollars, and the ability to use contracted slots as a method for increasing quality child care. Another piece of legislation, SB 708, directs Health and Human Services to collect data on caregiver-child ratios and group size standards, as well as serious violations and injuries. The bill also directs the agency to make recommendations on ratios to the legislature upon completion of the study.
- In **South Carolina**, the Pay for Success Performance Accountability Act is pending, which would facilitate the state's engagement in future Pay for Success projects. The state's first such project expanded quality postpartum nurse home visiting, and a pending project would expand a suite of early childhood services.
- In **California**, pending legislation, AB 1001, would strengthen existing early care and education local planning and coordinating infrastructure by bringing data systems into the 21st century, establishing greater alignment and efficiency, and ensuring important local agencies are included in decision-making.
- **Hawaii** passed SB1246, establishing goals for the adoption and proliferation of telehealth to increase health care access. It also establishes the State Strategic Telehealth Advisory Council and permanent State Telehealth and Health Care Access coordinator position. The law dissolves the advisory council on July 1, 2022. Finally, it establishes the Telehealth Administrative Simplification Working Group to research, make recommendations and report to the legislature.
- **Colorado** passed HB 19-1239, which creates a grant program to support outreach to ensure an accurate count for the 2020 Census.

Looking Ahead: Birth-to-Five Agenda Items & Policy Priorities

Out of the 210 agenda items provided by 30 states, 15% (n=31) were self-identified as **Data**. Out of the 30 state respondents, approximately 47% of the states (n=14) indicated an item in this category. Across these 31 items, approximately 42% (n=13) were directly related to education and/or learning.

Some of those agenda items include:

- **Oklahoma** has prioritized implementing an early childhood integrated data system to capture an unduplicated count of early care and education program participation and inform future investments in early childhood.
- **South Carolina** is working to strengthen capacity and incentives for child care providers to participate in the state's child care QRIS and align early childhood services to increase data-driven accountability, quality and impact statewide.
- **Rhode Island** is working to implement a statewide Kindergarten Entry Profile system to connect the early childhood system to early elementary grades.
- Advocates in **Hawaii** are requesting funding for the telehealth portal within the Hawaii State Department of Health.

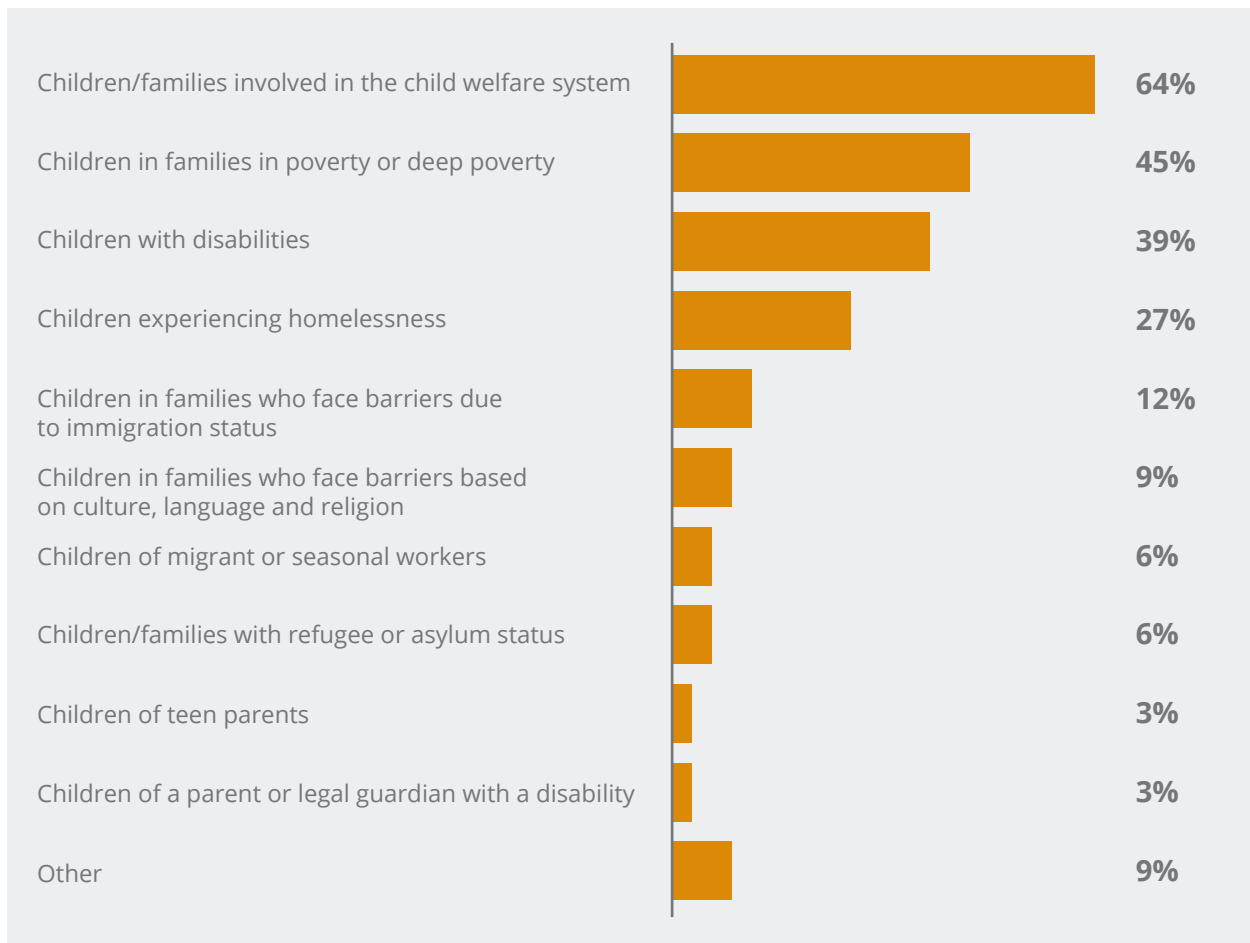
Out of the 130 policy items provided by 27 states, 17% (n=22) were self-identified as **Data**. Out of the 27 state respondents, approximately 52% of the states (n=14) indicated a policy item in this category. The majority of these items, 45% (n=10), were administrative policy items, and 41% (n=9) were legislative items. The remaining were budgetary (5%, n=1)²⁰.

²⁰9% (n=2) of Data tags did not indicate a type of policy item.

Population Priorities

State respondents were asked to indicate which populations were prioritized in legislation, administrative rules/ regulations and/or funding allocations in the past year that relate to children and families. Respondents could select more than one response, so please note that percentages may add up to more than 100%.

FIG 12: OUT OF THE 33 STATES, OVER HALF (N=21) INDICATED THAT IN THE LAST YEAR, THEIR STATES APPROVED LEGISLATION, ADMINISTRATIVE RULES / REGULATIONS AND / OR FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR CHILDREN/FAMILIES INVOLVED IN THE WELFARE SYSTEM



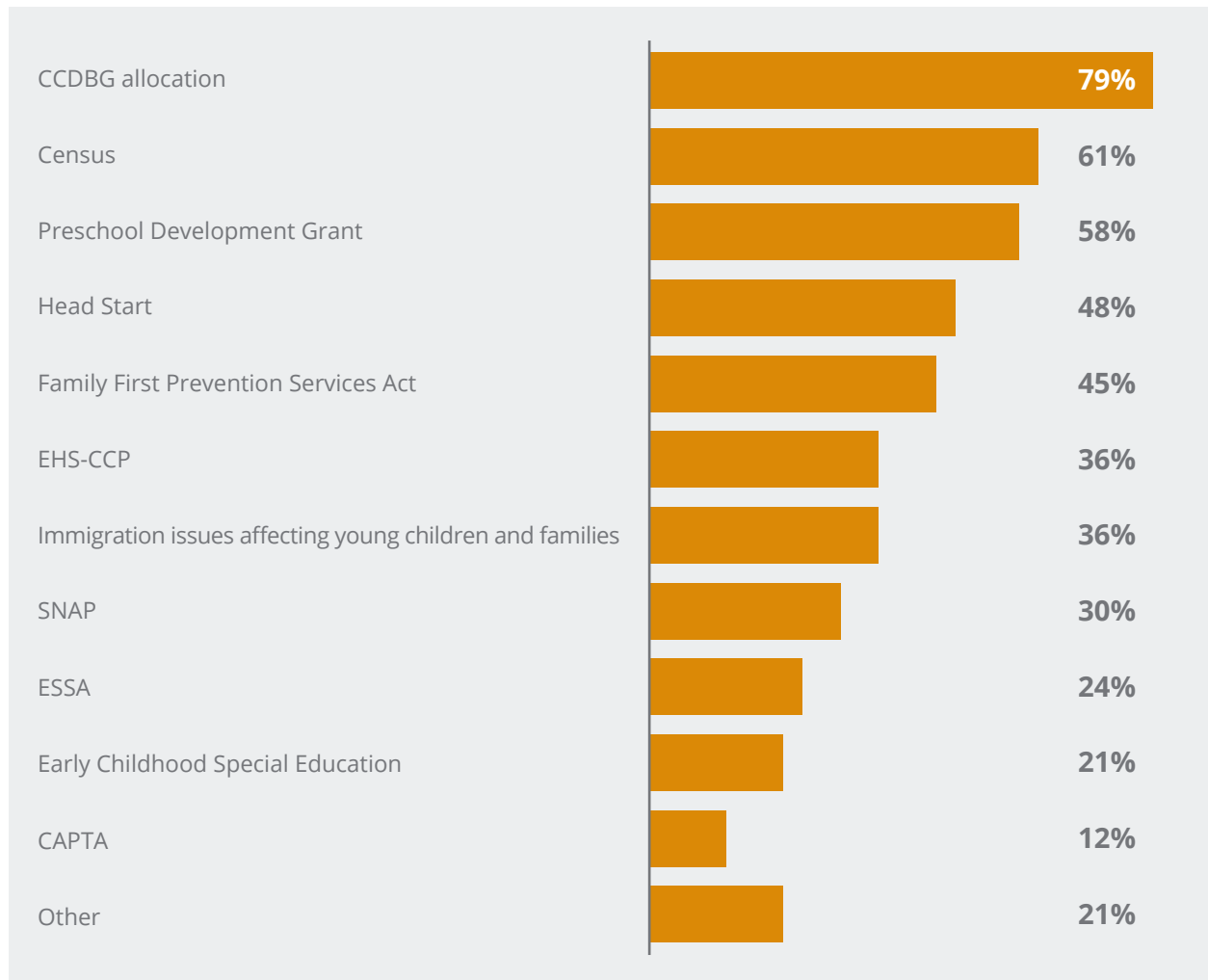
As can be seen in Figure 12, most state respondents who completed this update indicated that their state supported children/families involved in the **child welfare system**. The second-highest response focused on population were **children in families in poverty or deep poverty**. Three states said they focused on another population. These states provided the following responses:

- Children in families with low caregiver education attainment (two states)
- Children in out-of-home care

Advancing Federal Level Policy

State respondents were asked to indicate how they are engaged in advancing federal-level policy. They could select more than one response, so please note that percentages may add up to more than 100%.

FIG 13: OUT OF THE 33 STATES, THE MAJORITY (N=26) ARE ENGAGED IN ADVANCING FEDERAL-LEVEL POLICY BY CHILD CARE & DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CCDBG) ALLOCATIONS



As seen in Figure 13, most states are involved in allocating **CCDBG funds**. Approximately seven states indicated that they advanced federal-level policy in another way. Respondents provided the following examples:

- Poverty level determination comments
- General / Relationships – serving as a state-based resource to our delegation on any early education and care topics
- Paid Family Leave; Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV); Medicaid

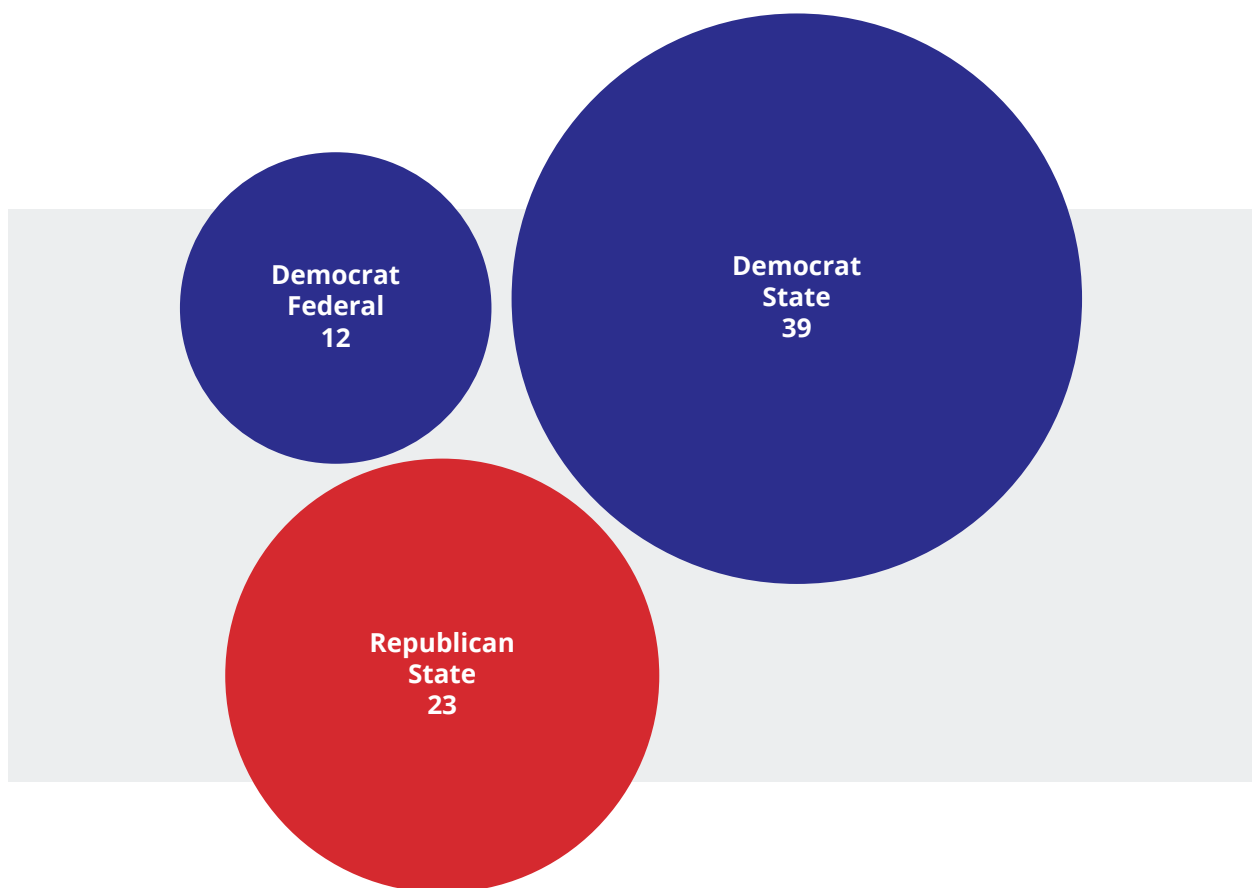
ADDITIONAL UPDATES

- Pay for Success Legislation, including Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPRA)
- Family Act, Healthy Families Act
- Three members of South Dakota Association for the Education Young Children (SDAEYC) attended the 2019 NAEYC Public Policy Forum in D.C. Fran Apland created a SDAEYC Public Policy working committee under SDAEYC
- Communicating to federal policymakers and federal partners about the prioritization of this funding and expanding these programs. Engaging the community to join in advocacy efforts through varying avenues

Elected Champions

State respondents were asked to provide an elected state- or federal-level official champion who has supported them in advancing early childhood policies in their state. All together, respondents provided 76 total champions who spanned party affiliations and levels of government.

FIG 14: PARTY AFFILIATION AND LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT BREAKDOWN FOR STATE CHAMPIONS (N=76)



Each color indicates which party the champion is affiliated with while the size indicates the number of champions selected. Over half of the state-selected champions are from the Democratic Party and are state elected officials. Please note Figure 14 excludes two champions one of whom is at the state level but has a third party affiliation and the other of whom is at another level but has a Republican Party affiliation.

Stories from the Field

Demand for a high-quality early childhood environment grew in a small town in rural Nebraska. They began a fundraising campaign with the goal of opening a new center to support the community and surrounding area. The team supporting this project wanted to accept the child care subsidy, but they had some questions. The team and one of their donors reached out to their state senator and set up a phone call with First Five Nebraska. We had not previously had much interaction with this senator and would not have thought of him as a champion, but after this and additional conversations he became one. He offered to carry one of our bills in the 2019 session and was able to get it passed. Community voices from rural Nebraska got the issue in front of a conservative policymaker, and the result is that he is now a champion for early childhood. This demonstrates the importance of community voices and of being sure you share your message with leaders all across the spectrum.

- Elizabeth Everett, Policy Associate at First Five Nebraska

GLOSSARY

Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE)
Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)
Arkansas Department of Education (ADE)
California Department of Education (CDE)
Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)
Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG)
Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)
Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL)
Department of Finance (DOF)
Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
Department of Social Services (DSS)
District of Columbia (D.C.)
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCECE)
Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT)
Early Childhood Intervention (ECI)
Early Education and Care (EEC)
Early Intervention (EI)
Early Support for Infants & Toddlers (ESIT)
Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)
Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students (GEEARS)
Individualized Education Program (IEP)
Local Education Agency (LEA)
Managed Care Organization (MCO)
Maryland Family Network (MFN)
PA Partnerships for Children (PPC)
Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)
Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT)
South Dakota Association for the Education of Young Children (SDAEYC)
State Policy Update Report (SPUR)
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE)
Virginia Mental Health Access Program (VMAP)
Women Infants & Children (WIC)

APPENDIX

Below are each states responses – separated by the status of each recorded item. Recorded items that did not pass, pending and passed are listed first followed by the agenda and exploratory items.

Responses listed in appendix are state-reported and unedited by the Ounce.

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
AZ	Home visitation- the bill requested \$3m of additional funds for home visitation services to be delivered by the Department of Health Services		✓	
	Family Information & Referral Services- appropriates \$1.5m to the Department of Economic services to enable the Arizona 211 information and referral service line available to families for their needs to be able to operate 24/7, instead of the limited hours of operation currently available because of funding constraints.		✓	
	AHCCCS Pregnant Women Dental Coverage- the bill appropriated funding from AHCCCS to cover comprehensive dental coverage for pregnant women.		✓	
	Rural Hospital sonogram and telemedicine equipment- Appropriated \$1m to the Department of Health Services to establish a grant for rural hospitals to purchase and sonogram and telemedicine equipment for providing care to pregnant women.	✓		
	KidsCare Money- Appropriated \$1.7 million in FY 20, and \$9.4 million in FY21 and 22 to eliminate the looming freeze of the KidsCare program, the federal CHIP dollars appropriated to Arizona to provide access to healthcare for children under 19 whose parents do not qualify for AHCCCS but are uninsured.	✓		
	CCDBG FY19 & FY20 Legislative Appropriation- Appropriated \$56 million from FY19 and FY20 to the Department of Economic Security for childcare subsidies.	✓		
	Preschool/kindergarten suspensions and expulsions- prohibits a public school from suspending or expelling a preschool or kindergarten student unless the student attempts or causes service bodily injury or possesses firearm or dangerous object. Provides alternative options to schools, such as transferring to another school. Requires schools to report on suspensions and expulsions to state dept. of ed.		✓	
	Maternal Morbidity and Morality Report- Established an advisory committee to recommend improvements to information collection concerning the incidence and causes of maternal fatalities and severe maternal morbidity	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
AZ	Online Early Learning- established an online early learning program through the dept. of education and appropriated \$500,000 to establish this program.	✓		
	Duty to report- Requires the immediate or next-higher-level supervisor or administrator of a person responsible for the care or treatment of a minor other than a parent, stepparent, or guardian to report a reasonable belief of abuse, physical injury, neglect, or deprivation of care developed in the course of employment.	✓		
State Contact Information: Liz Barker - lbarker@firstthingsfirst.org				
AR	\$7 million tax credit for early childhood educators passed unanimously in the Senate, but the session adjourned before the House was able to vote.		✓	
	AK Better Chance (ABC) pre-K funding remained flat again at \$114M during the 2019 legislative session.	✓		
	Perhaps the biggest legislative change affecting our early childhood education system is Act 910: the Transformation and Efficiencies Act of 2019. This 2,047-page law will cut the number of cabinet-level state agencies from 42 down to 15. As part of this Act, all education-related agencies and programs will soon be merged into the ADE, which traditionally has governed K-12 public schools. The ABC pre-K program, which is currently operated by the Department of Human Services (DCCECE), will soon be part of the Department of Education	✓		
	Act 131 requires the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education to make information about starting a child care business more easily accessible on its website.	✓		
	Act 506 establishes a farm to school and early childhood education program within the Arkansas Agriculture Department, with the goals of improving children's nutrition and teaching them about gardens and farms in their own communities. The Act authorizes the Department to hire a full-time program coordinator, who would be responsible for incorporating more agriculture and nutrition education in schools and early childhood programs across the state.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Ginny Blankenship - gblankenship@aradvocates.org			
CA	While CA did receive some increases in additional spaces, it did not receive the commitment from the Administration to get to \$1 billion for additional spaces, over three years.		✓	

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	<p>CalWORKs Home Visiting Program: The Budget provides \$89.6 million in a mix of federal funds and General Fund to provide home visiting services to eligible CalWORKs families in 2019-20 to serve approximately 18,500 cases. Services will be provided to pregnant women and families with a child under the age of two for up to 24 months. The services are intended to help young families reach self-sufficiency by improving family engagement practices, supporting healthy development of young children living in poverty, and preparing parents for employment. Participating counties will leverage existing, evidence-based program models currently being implemented across the state. Approximately 15,000 cases will be served on an annual basis beginning in 2020-21. The Budget recognizes the permanent nature of the Home Visiting program.</p>	✓		
	<p>Black Infant Health Program: Provides \$7.5 million ongoing General Fund and an additional \$12 million in DHCS reimbursements for Medi-Cal eligible activities in the Black Infant Health and the California Prenatal Equity Initiative. This funding is to improve African-American infant and maternal health through case management services, including home visiting.</p>	✓		
	<p>CA Home Visiting Program: The Budget provides \$23 million ongoing General Fund and \$22.9 million in DHCS reimbursements for Medi-Cal eligible activities to expand the California Home Visiting Program. This funding is for the expansion of home visiting services with a focus on low-income, young mothers and the use of a wider range of home visiting models based on varying family needs.</p>	✓		
	<p>Master Plan for Early Learning and Care: Provides \$5 million General Fund for the Secretary of Health and Human Services Agency, in concurrence with the executive director of the State Board of Education, to contract with a research and analysis entity to create a Master Plan to ensure comprehensive and affordable child care and universal preschool. Funding appropriated in the Budget Act for these purposes would be used for studies on the following: a fiscal framework to expand early learning and care in the state; early learning and care facility needs statewide; needs for services by families eligible for subsidies, including those not currently receiving services; a quality improvement plan to support all types of providers; steps necessary to provide universal pre-kindergarten for all three and four-year-old children. This work shall be compiled in a report, or series of reports, released on a continuing basis and shall be completed on or before October 1, 2020, and provided to the Governor, the chairpersons of the relevant legislative policy and budget committees, the Secretary of California Health and Human Services Agency, the executive director of the state board, the Superintendent, and the Director of Finance.</p>	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	Early Childhood Policy Council: Establishes a Council to advise the Governor, the Legislature, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction on statewide early learning and care policy, building on the work of the state’s Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and the 2019 CA Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education Final Report. The Council shall include 27 appointed members, as specified. The Council shall consult with a parent advisory committee and a workforce advisory committee. The CDE shall provide staffing to the Council and up to \$300,000 of funds provided for the Council may be used for this purpose.	✓		
	Childcare Providers Collective Bargaining: Provides \$10 million in one-time General Fund for CDE, DSS, Department of Human Resources, and the Public Employment Relations Board for costs associated with implementing child care organizing. Requires each department to submit expenditure plans and allocates the funds contingent on DOF approval and notification of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. Requires CDE and DSS to collect contact information for child care providers to make available to provider organizations for organizing purposes.	✓		
	Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) Screenings: The Budget provides \$40.8 million (\$27.2 million federal funds and \$13.6 million Proposition 56 funds) to DHCS for ACEs screenings for children and adults in the Medi-Cal program. Beginning no sooner than January 1, 2020, this proposal provides ACEs screenings to children and adults under age 65 at least once every three years, and supports increased referrals to appropriate services depending upon screening results. DHCS will work with stakeholders to develop a screening tool for children and will utilize an existing assessment for adults.	✓		
	Emergency Child Care Bridge Program: Provide \$10 million ongoing General Fund until December 31, 2021.	✓		
	Increase CalWORKs Grants to 50 percent of the Federal Poverty Level: The Budget increases CalWORKs grant levels by 13.1 percent, effective October 1, 2019, which will bring monthly grant payments to 50 percent of the projected 2019 federal poverty level. For a three-person assistance unit, the maximum monthly grant level will be \$888, an increase of \$103. The Budget includes \$347.6 million General Fund in 2019–20 (\$455.4 million General Fund annually thereafter) to fund this grant increase.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
	<p>Paid Family Leave: Extends the maximum duration of a Paid Family Leave benefit claim from 6 weeks to 8 weeks for all bonding and care-giving claims, beginning July 1, 2020, and sets a policy goal of 90 percent wage replacement. Reduces the reserve requirement for the fund that supports the Paid Family Leave program from 45 percent to 30 percent beginning July 1, 2019. This change will enable the state to make a down payment in expanding Paid Family Leave in the upcoming budget year while maintaining an adequate reserve. Over the course of the year, the Administration will convene a task force to develop recommendations by November 2019 that consider different options to phase-in and expand Paid Family Leave to allow a newborn or newly adopted child to be cared for by a parent or a close relative for up to six months by 2021.</p>	✓		
	<p>Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): Makes changes to significantly expand the EITC by raising the annual income recomputation floor from 3.1 percent to 3.5 percent, revising the calculation factors to increase the credit amount for certain taxpayers, raising the maximum income to \$30,000, and providing a refundable young child tax credit not to exceed \$1,000 per each qualified taxpayer per taxable year.</p>	✓		
	<p>Diaper Tax Exemption: Exempts children’s diapers from sales taxation beginning January 1, 2020, with a December 31, 2021 sunset</p>	✓		
CA	<p>Developmental Screenings: Provides \$53.9 million (\$30.8 million federal funds and \$23.1 million Proposition 56 funds) for DHCS to increase developmental screenings for children. Developmental screenings assess a child’s educational, social, and emotional development and are recommended for children at nine months, 18 months, and 30 months of age.</p>	✓		
	<p>Value-Based Payment Program: Provides \$250 million one-time Proposition 56 funding for the Value-Based Payments over the next several years. The Value-Based Payment program offers financial incentives to health care providers that improve their performance on predetermined measures or meet specified targets that focus on quality and efficiency of care. Of the amount allocated in this item, \$70 million shall be used for behavioral health integration. The funds appropriated for these purposes are available for expenditure until June 30, 2022.</p>	✓		
	<p>Reimbursement Rate Adjustment Factor for Children with Exceptional Needs: Applies Reimbursement Rate Adjustment Factor for Children with Exceptional Needs to Part-Day State Preschool Programs. Rate adjustment factors are intended to account for the higher costs of serving children in specific categories. This specific rate adjustment factor previously applied only to full-day state preschool programs.</p>	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	Cal Grant Access Awards for Student Parents: The Budget provides \$125 million General Fund to increase or provide new access awards for students with dependent children attending the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges. New or renewal Cal Grant A students will receive an access award of up to \$6,000. New or renewal Cal Grant B students will see their access award increase from \$1,648 to \$6,000. Cal Grant C students will see their book and supply award increase from \$1,094 to \$4,000. These access awards and increased award levels will better enable students with dependent children to meet their families’ basic needs and increase their likelihood of degree completion.	✓		
	Child Savings Account Program: Establishes the grant program under the administration of the California Student Aid Commission to support local governments and nonprofit organizations that sponsor or collaborate on one or more comprehensive city-wide or regional child savings account programs. This grant program aims to support and encourage families to build assets for their children’s post-secondary education. These pilot programs will support development or strengthening of cost-effective models that can be replicated or expanded to increase access to Child Savings Accounts among incoming kindergartners. The accounts are designated for a specific child to build assets over time through contributions from governments, society, family, friends, or the child. The accounts are generally opened with an initial contribution, or seed money, from a sponsoring organization such as a government agency, nonprofit, or philanthropic foundation. Eligible uses of the accounts are for tuition (normally for post-secondary education such as college, vocational, or technical schools), room and board, books, supplies and equipment, and mandatory fees.	✓		
	Trauma Screening Provider Training: Recognizing the need to train providers who will be administering screenings for trauma for children and adults, the Budget provides \$50 million (\$25 million federal funds and \$25 million Proposition 56 funds) for this purpose.	✓		
	The Budget also provides \$239 million in one-time funds to the California State University that can be used for child care infrastructure for students on college campuses.	✓		
	Quality Counts CA: \$2.2M ongoing federal funds to improve child care quality through Quality Counts CA.	✓		
	\$80.5 million Proposition 64 to subsidize child care for school-age children from income-eligible families. These funds are continuously appropriated.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	Early Learning and Care Workforce Development Grant: \$195 million one-time General Fund over five years to make a significant investment in the education of the child care workforce to improve the quality of care and move child care professionals along the early education/child care professional continuum. Adopts trailer bill language to expand trainings, ensure stipends and professional development align with Quality Counts CA.	✓		
	Universal Preschool: As a first step toward universal preschool, the Budget increases access to the existing State Preschool program for all low-income four-year-olds. To provide full-day, full-year access to State Preschool to all eligible low-income four-year-olds, the Budget provides \$124.9M non-Proposition 98 General Fund and additional investments in the two succeeding fiscal years to fund a total of 10,000 slots. Given limited capacity at LEAs, the additional slots will be provided by not-for-profit providers. To ensure that otherwise eligible four-year-old children can access a full-day, full-year State Preschool program, the Budget eliminates the existing requirement that families with four-year-olds provide proof of parent employment or enrollment in higher education to access the full-day program. To allow non-LEA providers to draw down full-day, full-year reimbursement from a single funding source, and to provide them with flexibility to make better use of their contract funding, the Budget shifts \$297.1 million Proposition 98 General Fund for part-day State Preschool programs at non-local educational agencies to non-Proposition 98 General Fund.	✓		
	Early Learning and Care Infrastructure Grant Program: \$142.7 million one-time General Fund to be expended over five years to expand subsidized child care facilities in the state.	✓		
	Child Care Spaces: Provides \$93.3 million [\$80.5 million ongoing Proposition 64 and \$12.8 million ongoing Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)] for the Alternative Payment (AP) Program. This is equivalent to approximately 9,459 AP slots. Provides \$50 million one-time General Fund for General Child Care with a shift to Proposition 64 funds in out-years. This is equivalent to approximately 3,086 General Child Care spaces. Provides an estimated 8,627 slot caseload increase to CalWORKS child care programs, due in part to a significant policy change in the Budget Act to expand 12 month eligibility to Stage 1 families, aligned to SB 321 (Mitchell).	✓		
	Special Education Early Intervention Preschool Grant: Creates a grant provided to LEAs based on the number of three and four-year-olds with exceptional needs, specifically students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Requires ongoing funding to be contingent upon the passage of legislation in the 2020-21 budget to reform the special education system to improve outcomes for students.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	<p>Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant Program: Provides \$300 million one-time General Fund to eligible school districts to construct new or retrofit existing facilities for full-day kindergarten programs or to fund other activities that reduce barriers to providing full-day kindergarten. Makes changes to the existing program so funding is better targeted at expanding access to full-day kindergarten programs: prioritizes schools converting part-day to full-day kindergarten programs; provides a greater fiscal incentive and support for districts to participate in the program, by increasing the state share of the facility grant from 50 percent to 75 percent for schools converting from part-day to full-day kindergarten; allows for any remaining grant funding to be used for other one-time costs to implement the full-day kindergarten program; specifies that participation in the Full-Day Kindergarten Facilities Grant program does not impact a district’s eligibility in the School Facility Program. The program will continue to prioritize available grants toward school districts with high rates of students receiving free and reduced-price meals and enable eligible school districts to qualify for financial hardship funding similar to the traditional K-12 facilities program.</p>	✓		
	<p>Provides an additional \$10 million in one-time non-Proposition 98 General Fund for the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop a new early learning data system.</p>	✓		
	<p>CA Cradle-to-Career Data System: Provides \$10 million one-time non-Proposition 98 General Fund available for encumbrance and expenditure through the 2021â€²22 fiscal year to plan for and develop the California Cradle-to-Career Data System. This system will connect student information from early education providers, Kâ€²12 schools, higher education institutions, employers, other workforce entities, and health and human services agencies. Funding shall be provided to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research to contract with planning facilitators to lead a workgroup comprised of representatives from education, workforce, health, and other relevant agencies. By July 1, 2020, the workgroup shall report to the DOF and the Legislature on the proposed structure of the data system, including governance, architecture, and functionality of the system. By January 1, 2021, the workgroup shall report to the Department of Finance and the Legislature on additional details regarding the data system.</p>	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	Interagency Cooperation: Allocates \$500,000 in one-time non-Proposition 98 funding to create a workgroup to increase the ability of schools to draw down federal funds for medically related services for students and improve the transition of three-year-olds with disabilities from regional centers to schools. Commencing with the 2019-20 fiscal year, CDE shall jointly convene with the State Department of Developmental Services, State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and one or more workgroups that include representatives from Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), appropriate county agencies, regional centers, and legislative staff to coordinate and collaborate in providing services and supports for students with disabilities.	✓		
	CalWORKs Home Visiting Program: The Budget provides \$89.6 million in a mix of federal funds and General Fund to provide home visiting services to eligible CalWORKs families in 2019-20 to serve approximately 18,500 cases. Services will be provided to pregnant women and families with a child under the age of two for up to 24 months. The services are intended to help young families reach self-sufficiency by improving family engagement practices, supporting healthy development of young children living in poverty, and preparing parents for employment. Participating counties will leverage existing, evidence-based program models currently being implemented across the state. Approximately 15,000 cases will be served on an annual basis beginning in 2020-21. The Budget recognizes the permanent nature of the Home Visiting program.	✓		
	AB 123 (McCarty) would expand access to full-day preschool to all 4-year-olds living in low-income neighborhoods and all 3-year-olds living in poverty, and increase teacher compensation and qualifications by requiring lead preschool teachers to earn a Bachelor's degree with an emphasis or major in child development. AB 123 is a 2-year bill and may be acted upon in January 2020.		✓	
	AB 194 (Reyes) would improve access to affordable child care by appropriating \$1 billion over three years toward increasing the number of low-income children in California's child care system. AB 194 is a 2-year bill and may be acted upon in January 2020.		✓	
	The Administration did not adopt the proposed reimbursement rate reform proposal to create a single, regionalized state reimbursement rate system, but it has agreed to ongoing conversations as the Governor's Master Plan on Early Childhood is developed.		✓	
	The Administration did not adopt the 2018 Regional Market Rate Survey that would have increased reimbursement rates for Title 22 providers.		✓	

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	AB 526 (Petrie-Norris) would create an expedited Medi-Cal enrollment pathway for children and pregnant women, by allowing the information they provide when applying to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) to also determine eligibility for Medi-Cal.		✓	
	AB 324 (Aguiar-Curry), the Dion Aroner Child Care Workforce Act of 2019, would create streamlined standards for professional support stipends provided under California's AB 212 program, based on the early care and education field's best practices to support teacher professional development and higher education attainment, and expand these stipends to more providers.		✓	
	AB 1001 (Ting) would strengthen California's existing early care and education local planning and coordinating infrastructure by bringing data systems into the 21st century, establishing greater alignment and efficiency, and ensuring important local agencies are included in decision-making.			✓
	SB 66 (Atkins) would allow Medi-Cal to reimburse Federally Qualified Health Clinics and Rural Health Clinics for two services rendered on the same day at the same location, when a patient receives a medical and mental health or dental visit.			✓
	AB 776 (Kalra) would establish a process by which local educational agencies (LEAs) may assign unique statewide student identifiers to children enrolled in state and federally funded center-based child care and development programs under their purview, and by which LEAs submit these identifiers to the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data Systems (CALPADS) to help identify school readiness gaps.			✓
	AB 378 (Limn), the Building a Better Early Care and Education System Act, would give family child care providers the right to collectively bargain with the state so they can negotiate for improvements that impact their work, and create a training partnership to ensure the training offered to providers meets the state's needs for the overall childcare workforce; satisfies the health, safety, and educational standards prescribed by the state; aligns with California's quality rating and improvement system; and identifies and works to eliminate barriers to providers accessing training, in order to create a sustainable career pathway for the early education workforce.			✓
	AB 48 (O'Donnell) would place the Kindergarten Community Colleges Public Education Facilities Bond Acts on the statewide 2020 primary and 2022 general elections.			✓

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CA	AB 125 (McCarty) and SB 174 (Leyva) would establish a single regionalized state reimbursement rate system called “The Child Care Stabilization Formula” for child care, preschool, and early learning services.			✓
	SB 464 (Mitchell) would direct hospitals that provide perinatal care to implement implicit bias training programs that identify existing provider biases, create measures to decrease implicit biases and stereotypes, and develop more culturally inclusive and appropriate communications and service delivery strategies.			✓
	ACR 1 (Bonta) would condemn the Trump Administration’s proposed “public charge” rule that would have a devastating effect on communities across the United States by driving up hunger, poverty, and unmet health care needs, and urge the Administration to rescind the rule expansion.			✓
	AB 1004 (McCarty) would clarify that health care providers must use a validated screening tool and adhere to the American Academy of Pediatrics best practices on periodicity for developmental screening services made available under the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit.			✓
	State Contact Information: Erin Gabel – egabel@ccfc.ca.gov			
CO	Eliminating Duplicate Regulation of School Building: SB 19-104 [Holbert & Foote/Baisely & Gray] was amended to require a review of state agency rules governing licensed school-age child care programs operating on school grounds and requires a de-duplication of any conflicting regulations.	✓		
	Early Childhood Development Special Districts: HB 19-1052 [McCluskie & Rich/Bridges & Rankin] allows local communities to collaborate to establish special districts to provide birth to 8 services across the domains of the EC Framework.	✓		
	Census Outreach Grant Program: HB 19-1239 [Tipper & Caraveo/Priola & Winter] creates a grant program to support outreach to ensure an accurate count for the 2020 Census. Young children are among those most likely to be undercounted. The census plays an important role in determining how much federal funding will flow into Colorado over the subsequent decade.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CO	School Discipline for Preschool through Second Grade: HB 19-1194 [Lontine & Larson/Priola & Fields] establishes standards for school removal (out of school suspension & expulsion) from public school and the Colorado Preschool Program/preschool special education through 2nd grade focused on preserving health and safety.	✓		
	Behavioral health supports for high-risk families: HB 19-1193 [Herod & Pelton/Garcia] creates a child care services and substance use disorder treatment pilot program within CDHS and awards grant funding to pilot child care navigation and mobile child care models for pregnant or parenting individuals seeking or participating in substance use disorder treatment.	✓		
	Expand Teacher Cadet Program Include Early Childhood Education: HB 19-1137 [Wilson/Priola] clarifies that high school students who are interested in early childhood education may participate in the existing Teacher Cadet Program.	✓		
	Funding for Full-Day Kindergarten: HB 19-1262 [Wilson & McLachlan/Bridges & Fields] fully funds FDK students as 1.0 (up from 0.58) within the school finance formula. It prohibits schools from charging tuition and updates statute to ensure effective implementation. It also reallocates more than 5,200 ECARE slots from FDK to preschool access. While primarily focused on school construction, includes provisions for allocating \$25 million in reserve funds for FDK implementation on a one-time, per pupil basis. Fiscal impact: \$175M.	✓		
	Infant and Family Child Care Action Plan: SB 19-063 [Priola & Story/Buentello & Valdez] requires the Office of Early Childhood and the Early Childhood Leadership Commission to engage specific, diverse stakeholders and develop a strategic action plan to address the shortage of infant child care and family home child care by December 2019.	✓		
	Child Care Expenses Tax Credit for Low-income Families: HB 19-1013 [Exum/Pettersen] extends for an additional eight years. The existing child care expenses tax credit targeted to families earning less than \$25,000 who cannot benefit from the general state tax credit due to the non-refundability of the federal tax credit.	✓		
	Early Childhood Educator Tax Credit: HB 19-1005 [Buckner & Wilson/Todd & Priola] establishes a refundable, annual tax credit for credentials early childhood educators working at qualified facilities. The tax credit is tied to the credential level of the educator and reaches a maximum of a \$1,000 tax credit for an Early Childhood Teacher credential.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
CO	Public School Cap Construction Financial Assistance: HB 19-1055 [Bird/Zenzinger & Coram] is primarily focused on school construction, however, it also includes provisions for allocating \$25 million in reserve funds for FDK implementation on a one-time, per pupil basis.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Christina Walker - CWalker@claytonearlylearning.org			
FL	Dental Therapy would have authorized the Department of Health to issue a dental therapist license to an applicant who possesses a degree or certificate in dental therapy from an accredited program. Authorized a licensed dental therapist to perform remediable tasks under the general supervision of a dentist, and provides a scope of practice for dental therapists		✓	
	Florida United Way Financial Stability had a \$1.2 million budget request, to expand the capacity of tax preparation assistance and financial education programs statewide. There was a budget allocation of \$500,000 by the Florida Legislature which was later vetoed by the Governor.		✓	
	Medicaid School-Based Services would have aligned current law with federal Medicaid requirements by allowing all Medicaid-eligible students to receive school-based Medicaid services, not just those who have an individualized education plan or an individualized family service plan.		✓	
	Affordable Housing Trust Fund would have prohibited the Legislature from sweeping funds in the annual state budget to General Revenue from the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund.		✓	
	Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program would have further implemented the ground-breaking early learning bill (HB 1091) that the Legislature passed last year (2018) by, among others, requiring the Office of Early Learning and the Department of Education to create a coordinated assessment system to track the progress of students in the VPK program through grade 2. It also would have addressed VPK and kindergarten student and provider assessments.		✓	
	Children and Youth Cabinet would have added a representative of the Florida Dental Association to the Children and Youth Cabinet, to be appointed by the Governor.		✓	
	Early Childhood Courts would have allowed authorizing circuit courts to create early childhood court programs; providing requirements and guidelines for the Office of the State Courts Administrator when hiring community coordinators and a statewide training specialist; authorizing the office to provide funding to circuit courts that would have chosen to establish a coordination system in lieu of creating a community coordinator position, etc.		✓	

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
FL	Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products would have implemented a tax exemption for diapers and incontinence products; Exempting the sale for human use of diapers, incontinence undergarments, incontinence pads, or incontinence liners from the sales and use tax, etc.		✓	
	\$34.7 million increase Healthy Kids			
	\$6.4 million 1091 Implementation			
	\$3.8 million increase Voluntary Prekindergarten Program			
	\$40 million 1091 Pay Differential			
	\$ 3 million (flat) School Readiness Teacher Training			
	\$1.6 million (flat) early learning standards and accountability			
	\$10 million (flat)Teacher Education and Compensation Helps Program (T.E.A.C.H.)			
	\$425,000 decrease for Help Me Grow			
	\$145.9 million increase School Readiness Services			
	Office of Early Learning - Requires the Office of Early Learning to develop early learning professional development training and course standards for school readiness program providers and identify both formal and informal early learning career pathways with stackable credentials and certifications, which allow early childhood teachers to access specialized professional development.	✓		
State Contact Information: Amanda Gorski – gorskia@unitedwaymiami.org				
GA	Expanding Medicaid to Improve Health Outcomes for New Mothers: HB 693 would require the Department of Community Health to allow mothers giving birth to newborns to retain Medicaid eligibility for one year following said birth.		✓	
	\$1.75 million to address maternal mortality, including \$1.05 million to screen, refer, and treat maternal depression and related behavioral disorders in rural and underserved areas, \$200,000 for additional nurse abstractors for the Maternal Mortality Review Committee, and \$500,000 to create the Center of Excellence on Maternal Mortality at Morehouse School of Medicine.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
GA	\$600,000 to establish three perinatal support satellites in three counties with consistently poor outcomes for infant mortality, low birthweight, prematurity, and inadequate prenatal care access.	✓		
	\$2.35 million in additional funding for newborn screenings to include four additional disorders approved by Georgia Newborn Screening Advisory Committee.	✓		
	\$15,003,985 to increase salaries for lead teachers in Georgia’s Pre-K classrooms by \$3,000. This was a part of a campaign promise by Georgia’s new governor, Brian Kemp, to increase salaries for all eligible Pre-K and K-12 teachers.	✓		
	\$500,000 in additional funding for the Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) Program.	✓		
	House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health: HR 421 created the House Study Committee on Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health to study the prevention, early intervention, and treatment of mental health challenges in young children.	✓		
	Child Care Development Fund (CCDF): DECAL has used the additional CCDF funds to improve access to high-quality care by incentivizing infant-toddler care, expanding inclusion services, increasing workforce professional learning supports, and capping the family fee at 7% of a family’s income. Specific policy changes that have occurred in 2019 include: raising the base reimbursement rates for infant-toddler care to the 25th percentile of the market rate survey; adding 500 Quality Rated Subsidy Grant slots for infants and toddlers; adding six Behavior Support Specialists (one per DECAL region) to help teachers and other staff create and implement behavior support plans for children exhibiting intense, persistent, challenging behaviors; and implementing a centralized intake line (1-833-35-4HELP) for teachers and other early education staff that will triage and route cases of extreme challenging behaviors to appropriate levels of support. Through increased funding to the DECAL Scholars programs, 536 early learning professionals have received an additional \$713,000 to support scholarships and bonuses for earning credentials.	✓		
	House Study Committee on Maternal Mortality: HR 589 created the House Study Committee on Maternal Mortality to develop strategies and institute systemic changes to decrease and prevent maternal deaths in Georgia.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Jessica Woltjen – jwoltjen@gears.org			

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
HI	SB78 - Establishes the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) as the administrative authority for state-funded prekindergarten programs, and private partnership-funded prekindergarten programs in the public schools, except for special education and Title I-funded prekindergarten programs. Transfers prekindergarten programs in DOE and charter schools, except for special education and Title I-funded prekindergarten programs, to EOEL. Clarifies the role and responsibilities of EOEL in the public prekindergarten program. Requires DOE to adhere to certain quality standards and work with EOEL. Makes appropriations.	✓		
	SB1246 - Establishes goals for the adoption and proliferation of telehealth to increase health care access. Establishes the State Strategic Telehealth Advisory Council and permanent State Telehealth and Health Care Access Coordinator position. Dissolves the Advisory Council on 7/1/2022. Establishes the Telehealth Administrative Simplification Working Group to research, make recommendations, and report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds	✓		
	HR88 - REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS THE SOCIAL AND FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF REQUIRING HEALTH INSURERS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR CLINICAL VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND ABUSE.	✓		
	SR52 - ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OTHER AGENCY AND COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO CONTINUE MEETING AS A WORKING GROUP FOR SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.	✓		
	SB242 - Establishes a task force to review policy issues and opportunities relating to the navigation, access, and coverage of medicaid services by individuals with autism or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder and make a recommendation on whether a waiver or other approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is necessary to ensure accessibility of certain services for individuals with autism or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.	✓		
	SB1033 - Establishes licensure of midwives. Temporarily exempts birth attendants and exempts Native Hawaiian healers from licensure requirements. Establishes task force. Appropriates funds.	✓		
	Paid family leave study extension - Extends the deadline for the Legislative Reference Bureau to submit the sunrise analysis required by Act 109, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, from 9/1/2019, to 11/13/2019. (HB32 CD1)	✓		
	HR33 - ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS TO MEET AS A WORKING GROUP FOR SEXUAL-VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
HI	SB549 - Requires restaurants that sell children’s meals that include a beverage to make the default beverage a healthy beverage.	✓		
	SB390 - Requires the Department of Agriculture to create a dollar-for-dollar matching program for beneficiaries of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to purchase Hawaii-grown produce. Appropriates funds.	✓		
	SCR7 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, TO WORK WITH THE FAMILY REUNIFICATION WORKING GROUP AND OTHER COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ESTABLISH VISITATION CENTERS AT ALL STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES AND JAILS.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Laura Nevitt -- Inevitt@hawaii-can.org			
IL	The Department of Children and Family Services adopted rules requiring licensed child care providers to test drinking water for lead.			
	level-funding for evidence-based home visiting programs for expectant and new parents through Healthy Families and Parents Too Soon in the Department of Human Services	✓		
	level-funding for evidence-based home visiting programs for expectant and new parents through Healthy Families and Parents Too Soon in the Department of Human Services	✓		
	A \$50 million increase (10.1%) to the Early Childhood Block Grant at the Illinois State Board of Education to expand and improve birth-to-five early childhood services	✓		
	\$100 million in facilities funding for school districts and child care centers through the Early Childhood Construction Grant program. With these funds, early learning providers will build new or update existing classrooms for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers across the state.	✓		
	\$100 million in facilities funding for school districts and child care centers through the Early Childhood Construction Grant program. With these funds, early learning providers will build new or update existing classrooms for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers across the state.	✓		
	A \$12 million increase (12.4%) to the Early Intervention program at the Department of Human Services to accommodate the state’s growing caseload and to increase reimbursement rates for all EI providers.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
IL	A \$28.8 million increase (7.2%) to the Child Care Assistance Program at the Department of Human Services to expand income eligibility from 185% to 200% below the Federal Poverty Line, to decrease parent copays, and to commit significant resources to the Department for much needed program outreach and recruitment, among other improvements	✓		
	A \$28.8 million increase (7.2%) to the Child Care Assistance Program at the Department of Human Services to expand income eligibility from 185% to 200% below the Federal Poverty Line, to decrease parent copays, and to commit significant resources to the Department for much needed program outreach and recruitment, among other improvements;	✓		
	The Illinois Department of Public Health adopted rules lowering the action threshold for children’s blood lead levels	✓		
	The Department of Human Services also announced a doubling of investments in the Gateways Scholarship program for early childhood practitioners and an expansion of the Great START wage supplement program through an increased income eligibility threshold	✓		
	Some of the Illinois early childhood organizations, led by the Latino Policy Forum, also focus on immigration, with legislative wins in immigration with a child well-being focus. P.A. 101-0121 (Rep. Gong-Gershowitz) which enables abused and/or neglected children to petition for special immigrant juvenile status.	✓		
	A constitutional amendment resolution passed requiring the question of whether Illinois should move from a flat income tax to a graduated income tax be placed on the fall 2020 ballot. Members of the early childhood coalition served on the Responsible Budget Coalition, which supported that effort. Illinois Action for Children served on the Executive Committee.	✓		
	Some of the Illinois early childhood organizations, led by the Latino Policy Forum, also focus on immigration, with legislative wins in immigration with a child well-being focus. P.A. 101-0120(Rep. Gong-Gershowitz) which provides a clearly defined path to designate a short-term guardian to protect children who have been separated by their parents or in the event a child’s parent is detained and deported	✓		
	SB1952: Eliminates the Basic Skills Test requirement for future teachers and allows for the payment of student teachers in schools and child care centers	✓		
	A series of bills addressing maternal and infant morbidity and mortality and the racial disparities in these rates	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
IL	The administration, through the Department of Human Services, has announced a series of improvements to the Child Care Assistance Program including increasing income eligibility to 200% FPL and the exit eligibility to 225% effective Oct. 1, 2019 and capping family co-pays to no more than 9% of a family's gross income, effective July 1, 2019	✓		
	HB2237: Creates a Children's Savings Account program, which would automatically open a savings account for every child born or adopted in Illinois	✓		
	HB2237: Creates a Children's Savings Account program, which would automatically open a savings account for every child born or adopted in Illinois	✓		
	Included in the budget implementation bill is language to ensure that young children exposed to lead are eligible for Early Intervention services.)	✓		
	The Department of Human Services also announced a doubling of investments in the Gateways Scholarship program for early childhood practitioners and an expansion of the Great START wage supplement program through an increased income eligibility threshold	✓		
	A series of bills addressing maternal and infant morbidity and mortality and the racial disparities in these rates	✓		
	Included in the budget implementation bill is language to ensure that young children exposed to lead are eligible for Early Intervention services.)	✓		
	The administration, through the Department of Human Services, has announced a series of improvements to the Child Care Assistance Program including increasing income eligibility to 200% FPL and the exit eligibility to 225% effective Oct. 1, 2019 and capping family co-pays to no more than 9% of a family's gross income, effective July 1, 2019	✓		
	SB1952: Eliminates the Basic Skills Test requirement for future teachers and allows for the payment of student teachers in schools and child care centers	✓		
	Early childhood advocates and several other non-profits (coalition members included the Ounce and the Shriver Center) authored a report/recommendations to increase accessibility and effectiveness of WIC, including successfully getting the elimination of a dual-coupon system for Illinois WIC program			✓
The Ounce and several other non-profits partnered to author a report and recommendations to increase accessibility and effectiveness of WIC in Illinois			✓	

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
IL	State Contact Information: Ireta Gasner – igasner@ounceofprevention.org			
KS	Establishment of Children’s Savings Accounts for every Kansas child starting at birth helping remove obstacles to wealth accumulation faced by families of color and give families an important savings tool.			✓
	Kansas Action for Children was instrumental in halting a tax proposal that would have cost the state \$500 million over the next three years and that would have offered little to no benefit to low-income Kansas families.			
	\$51 million-plus for the Children’s Initiatives Fund, with increases included to restore previously reduced support for certain programs.	✓		
	\$3 million added to Medicaid dental reimbursement rates in Fiscal Year 2020, which will help expand access to care.	✓		
	Matching funds to meet federal requirements for the Family First Prevention Services Act “allowing flexibility for the state to fund prevention services keeping families intact and kids out of foster care.	✓		
	\$90 million extra to education, covering the cost of inflation and resolving the state Supreme Court order to adequately fund K-12 public education.	✓		
	The Kansas Department of Children and Families increased child care assistance payment rates from the 40th percentile of 2014 market rates to the 65th percentile of 2017 market rates, thereby expanding access to the program.	✓		
	Expanding the child care assistance program to participants of the GOALS employment and training program allowing families to access child-care assistance for job search activities. GOALS is specifically for parents who participate in the state’s food assistance program.	✓		
Using Child Care Development Funds to pay child-care costs for foster children. This new program will provide foster parents the added convenience of using a benefits card to pay for child care.	✓			
State Contact Information: Annie McKay – annie@kac.org				
KY	Increase state funding for all-day kindergarten		✓	
	Increase state funding for public preschool		✓	
	Increase state funding for all-day kindergarten		✓	

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
KY	Increase state funding for public preschool		✓	
	Fund all-day preschool through pre-K collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care	✓		
	Increase CCAP eligibility at re-certification to 200% of FPL	✓		
	Remove CCAP work requirement for full-time students	✓		
	Increase CCAP reimbursement rates to child care providers to 40th percentile	✓		
	Increase CCAP reimbursement rates to child care providers to 40th percentile	✓		
	Fund all-day preschool through pre-K collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care	✓		
	Statewide, comprehensive tobacco-free school campus policy	✓		
	Remove CCAP work requirement for full-time students	✓		
	Increase CCAP income eligibility at re-certification to 200% of FPL	✓		
	Increase funds for all-day preschool pre-K collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care			✓
	Increase CCAP reimbursement rates to child care providers to 75th percentile			✓
	Increase CCAP eligibility to 200% of FPL			✓
	Increase funds for all-day preschool collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care			✓
	Increase CCAP initial income eligibility to 200% of FPL			✓
	Increase CCAP reimbursement rates to child care providers to 75th percentile			✓
State Contact Information: Mike Hammons – mhammons@childreninc.org				

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
LA	Dedication of excise taxes from sports betting and fantasy sports betting to the Early Childhood Education Trust Fund. (The legalization of sports betting and fantasy sports did not pass.)		✓	
	\$3.6 million to the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Trust Fund if the land based casino revenues are greater than \$60 million (which they have been for every year for the last 10 years except one, in 2017). This Trust Fund provides a state match for local revenues spent on early care and education.	✓		
	A 3% excise tax on each retail sale of industrial hemp-derived CBD products within the state of Louisiana to go to the Early Childhood Education Trust Fund. As noted above, this Trust Fund provides a state match for local revenues spent on early care and education.	✓		
	\$2.3 million in new state funding to raise the rates for all ages in the Child Care Assistance Program	✓		
	\$8.9 million to expand the Child Care Assistance Program, which will fund an additional 1400 children on the CCAP waitlist at the new higher rate. This is the first state investment to expand CCAP in ten years.	✓		
	\$4 million in new state funding for Louisiana’s LA 4 Pre-K program to sustain 800 Pre-K seats to replace the federal grant that is ending this school year.	✓		
	Development and Release of the legislatively mandated report by the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission entitled Funding Our Future: LA B to 3 that defines a plan for Louisiana to Expand quality seats to serve 114,000 Louisiana children in need, prioritizing children birth through three, an increase from only 22,000 children in that age range served today.	✓		
	Expansion of the quality rating system to include infants through the use of the Infant CLASS® assessment.	✓		
	Break out for the first time infants to receive higher rates in the Child Care Assistance Program, and increased all rates to at least the 25th percentile, while maintaining a higher base rate at each age for children with special needs	✓		
Legislation passed to refine and improve the provisions of the Louisiana Early Childhood Education Trust Fund, including that there will be a 1:1 match of state to local dollars, that any unused funds each year will be used to provide quality care for children birth through age two, and other provisions.	✓			

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
LA	State Contact Information: Libbie Sonnier Netto – Isonniernetto@policyinstitutela.org			
ME	\$7M was requested in 2020-21 to provide the state share of funding for SAUs to develop public preschools to achieve availability of preschool education state-wide. This funding was removed from the budget.		✓	
	After several years and multiple renditions, the bipartisan LIFT and STEP bills gained unanimous passage this session. Through these two important pieces of legislation, Maine can take real steps to help families in poverty meet their basic needs and ensure economic opportunities for those families once they are stabilized and able to take advantage of them.			
	\$840,000 will provide for the implementation of a statewide Early Childhood Consultation program, in which early childhood mental health professionals work with teachers, providers, and parents to promote appropriate social and emotional development and manage challenging behaviors in children to help them be more successful in the classroom.	✓		
	After the deaths of two young girls last year and an emergency session to bring forward child welfare reform legislation, this session saw the advancement of many additional bills designed to shore up the child protective system and to support families in crisis. Some bills that made it through included: increasing funding to strengthen the Child Welfare Ombudsman program; creating a more reasonable process for certification of foster homes to increase their numbers; continuation of MaineCare coverage for access to mental health and substance abuse treatment to parents working to rehabilitate and reunify with children in state custody; and significantly, legislation to establish caseload limits for child protective caseworkers, to ensure they have the time and resources to carefully assess and meaningfully work with families in their care.	✓		
	Legislation to provide for the implementation of a statewide Early Childhood Consultation program, in which early childhood mental health professionals work with teachers, providers, and parents to promote appropriate social and emotional development and manage challenging behaviors in children to help them be more successful in the classroom, was signed into law by Governor Mills on June 27, 2019.	✓		
	Legislation to convene a stakeholder group to determine the state’s capacity to provide early and period screening, diagnostic and treatment services (EPSDT) also passed.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
ME	This session saw the passage of three bills addressing the danger posed to child exposure to lead, through the strengthening of the Lead Poisoning Control Act, a bill to expand access to lead screenings at well-child visits for 1- and 2-year-olds, and legislation requiring public schools to test drinking water regularly for levels of lead.	✓		
	\$1,000,000 would stabilize the home visiting work force by bringing salaries of home visitors in line with comparable positions and to reduce any waiting lists for home visiting services to provide child development education and skills development for new parents. This was carried over to the 2nd legislative session.			✓
	\$3,050,000 would provide funding to support the early childhood workforce that educates and cares for our youngest children, ensuring parents have adequate child care so they can work. The bill was carried over to the 2nd session.			✓
	Governor Mills proposed a bond package that includes \$5 million to support a child care facilities bond. The bond will support grants and low-interest loans for expansion of new child care facilities. The program, if passed by the voters, would be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development.			✓
	\$511,000 would provide greater access for vulnerable populations of children by addressing the higher cost of operating for high-quality licensed programs for infants and toddlers than for older children, by setting child care rates that cover the actual operating cost to providers. This funding would also create contracts for high-quality care and offer a greater subsidy reimbursement for them. This bill was carried over to the 2nd session.			✓
	\$22,500,000 establishes criteria for state-funded slots for families living in poverty and those in households affected by substance use or mental health disorders. This bill was carried over to the 2nd session.			✓
	Legislation would create the First 4 ME Early Care and Education program to provide comprehensive, high-quality early care and education services for at-risk children who have not yet entered school. The bill is based on an Early Head Start Child Care partnership grant that created the Elevate Maine project in Skowhegan. The bill would support 10 community pilot projects to support children and their parents by funding projects that integrate Head Start's comprehensive services in center-based and family child care settings. A Community coalition would develop and submit an application for funding based on community needs. This bill was carried over			✓
State Contact Information: Sarah Swift – sswift@mekids.org				

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
MD	Education reform package that includes expansion of pre-K funding	✓		
	Child care subsidy rate expansion	✓		
	Child care subsidy rates will rise to at least the 60th percentile level	✓		
	Budgetary - The legislature approved \$3 million, an increase of \$1.2 million over FY 2019 pursuant to legislation MFN championed in 2018.	✓		
State Contact Information: Clinton MacSherry – cmacsherry@marylandfamilynetwork.org				
MA	Preschool expansion: \$25 million to replace expiring federal Preschool Development Grant (\$15 million), sustain current state-funded preschool expansion grantees (\$5 million), and expand to new communities (\$5 million). This proposal did not pass, however \$5 million was included to sustain current state-funded grantees. In addition, budget language allows for unspent funds from FY19 (\$2.5 million) to roll over into FY20. This will support a second cohort of preschool expansion communities.		✓	
	Continue increasing state investments in the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) and all of its programs. EEC's total budget in FY20 is \$669.6 million. This represents a \$57 million increase (9%) over FY19, and a \$182 million increase over the historic mid-recession low-point of FY13.	✓		
	Early education workforce, \$20 million rate increase, and \$5 million workforce grants to community colleges. FY20 is the sixth consecutive year the budget has included a rate reserve or rate increase for early educator salaries.	✓		
	EEC Workforce Council. The FY19 state budget created a workforce council at the Department of Early Education and Care. This cross-sector council of stakeholders consists of legislative, business, providers, and advocates. The council meets monthly to hear updates from agency staff and provide feedback and input on the design and implementation of EEC's workforce development systems.	✓		
	Affordable child care legislation. A new proposal for universal access to affordable, high-quality early education and child care, including care during non-standard work hours, and appropriate professional development and compensation for early education and care providers. Would utilize a sliding scale fee structure, with no family paying more than 7% of its income.			✓

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
MA	Preschool expansion legislation. Bill refiled in 2019, pending since 2015. Would ensure phased-in preschool expansion to high-needs communities with state-approved local expansion plans and needs assessments.			✓
	State Contact Information: Titus Dos Remedios - tdosremedios@earlyeducationforall.org			
MS	Expand state-funded pre-K	✓		
	State Contact Information: Rachel Canter - rachel@mississippifirst.org			
NE	Previous cuts to early childhood programs were restored in the 2019-2021 biennium budget.	✓		
	The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services updated its Child Care Development Fund Rules and Regulations to come into compliance with CCDBG Reauthorization. They were approved by the governor and will have a public hearing soon.			✓
	State Contact Information: Adam Feser - afeser@firstfivebraska.org			
NV	Assembly Bill 346 would have allowed for individuals with previous marijuana drug convictions to work at a child care facility, assuming they passed a background check. The bill also made changes to allow contracted workers with background checks to be left alone with children at child care centers.		✓	
	Require the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the reimbursement rate for providers caring for children in foster care at 100% of the cost of care.		✓	
	Assembly Bill 144 would have removed the sales tax on diapers.		✓	
	Allow for parents attending school full time to qualify for child care subsidy		✓	
	Assembly Bill 253 would have made an appropriation of \$8 million to expand the state's preschool infrastructure by building more classrooms, purchasing equipment and providing grants to preschool teachers.		✓	
	Senate Bill 444, if passed, would have allowed for an additional 1,500 children to attend preschool.		✓	
	State Pre-K Budget - maintaining seats after the expiration of the pre-k development grant.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
NV	Assembly Bill 194 added an additional member who is a representative of the pediatric mental, physical or behavioral health care industry to the Early Childhood Advisory Council.	✓		
	Senate Bill 90, as enrolled, updated the reporting requirements regarding the amount of levels of lead in the blood of a child and created the diapering resource account.	✓		
	Assembly Bill 234, as passed, requires the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the amount of child care providers willing and able to care for children with a documented disability. Additionally, the bill allows for parents currently receiving subsidy assistance to continue receiving the assistance if they return to school.	✓		
	Senate Bill 84, as passed, allows for and provides guidance to the Department of Education to oversee and manage the Nevada State Pre-k program.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Denise Tanata – denise.tanata@caanv.org			
NH	Support a robust quality rating and improvement system in NH		✓	
	State Contact Information: Rebecca Woitkowski – rwoitkowski@new-futures.org			
NJ	Additional \$68 million	✓		
	Additional \$9 million	✓		
	Additional \$24 million	✓		
	Increase in the minimum wage to \$15/hr	✓		
	Improved paid family leave law from 6 weeks to 12 weeks	✓		
	Expansion of Medicaid to include doula services	✓		
	State Contact Information: Cynthia Rice – crice@acnj.org			
NM	Increasing the distribution from the state’s sovereign wealth fund (the Land Grant Permanent Fund) as a dedicated funding stream for early childhood programs.		✓	
	State Contact Information: Michael Weinburg – michael@thornburgfoundation.org			

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
NY	<p>Afterschool. The 2019-2020 NYS Budget included new investments in two after school programs. Specifically, it maintained level funding of \$22.3 million to the Advantage After School program, along with \$10.7 million in new funds to support the minimum wage increase.</p> <p>The Final Budget also increased investment by \$10 million in the Empire State After-School program “ with \$2 million reserved for school districts and community-based organizations located in high-risk areas in Nassau or Suffolk County. The other \$8 million is targeted to applicants in school districts with high rates of student homelessness and communities vulnerable to gang activity. With the addition of these new funds, total investment in the program will rise to \$55 million. These funds will allow an additional 6,250 students to engage in afterschool programs.</p>			
	<p>Early intervention. The 2019-2020 NYS Budget included a five percent increase in reimbursement rates for certain professionals providing Early Intervention services - occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech language pathologists. This marked the first time the State had provided an increase in Early Intervention reimbursement rates since the 1990s.</p>			
	<p>Pre-K. The 2019-2020 NYS Budget added \$15 million in new funding for pre-K expansion, and funding for a new regional technical assistance center to support quality implementation and best practices in small districts. The Budget also secured all existing pre-K funding for the future, a total of nearly \$850 million, supporting more than 120,000 3- and 4-year-olds.</p>			
	<p>Child Care. The 2019-2020 NYS Budget included a \$26 million increase over last year’s child care subsidy funding. The new funds were used to hold subsidy reimbursement rates at the 69th percentile of the new market rate - which was released during April 2019. The Final Budget also included new investment of more than \$2 million to expand the Infant-Toddler Resource Network, which provides critical training and supports to providers serving our youngest New Yorkers, and flat funding at \$5 million for QUALITYstarsNY, the state’s quality rating and improvement system. Finally, a total of \$9,988,000 was allocated for the Child Care Facilitated Enrollment Projects, which support subsidies for families with slightly higher incomes (up to 275% of the federal poverty level), representing flat funding compared to last year’s allocation. The State also directed Regional Economic Development Councils to prioritize child care in their 2019 plans.</p>			
	<p>Pre-K: The state plans to undertake its first review of pre-K regulations in a decade, and includes proposals to strengthen quality standards, enhance multilingual education, and reduce suspensions and expulsions as well as other key improvements.</p>			

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
NY	Child Care: The state passed a law amending New York election law to allow campaign funds to be used to pay child care expenses that are incurred in the campaign or in the execution of the duties of public office or party position. The Legislature passed a bill that would authorize the state to undertake a cost estimation model to determine the cost of providing quality care, and another that would require all counties in New York to make child care subsidies available to parents who, because they work non-traditional hours, need access to child care so they can sleep. Both bills are awaiting signature from the Governor.			
	State Contact Information: Dede Hill – dhill@scaany.org			
OK	The legislature increased state aid funding formula by \$74.3 million and gave teachers on average a \$1200 raise.			
	Application fees eliminated for Professional Development Ladder (\$10) and Oklahoma Directors Credential (\$25)			
	Planning an add-on amount of money to the rate for providers who will provide care during non-traditional hours			
	Funded OK Shared Services through Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association			
	SB441 requires districts to meet certain cost saving and academic performance guidelines set by the State Department of Education in order to maintain a minimum of 165 instructional days, which impacts schools offering a four day school week.			
	Increase collaborations to support improved cross-sector professional development opportunities.			
	Stipends for obtaining bundles of training in certain topics (Oklahoma Right Start Infant/Toddler Certificate of Achievement)			
	Clarify and strengthen policies to encourage mixed-delivery systems in early care and education programs.			
	Strengthen policies to improve pre-K quality and facilitate transitions to kindergarten.			
	State Contact Information: Debra Andersen – debra.andersen@smartstartok.org			
OR	Reduce parent co-pays in the child care subsidy program		✓	

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
OR	Launch Universal Family Connects in Oregon to provide new parents with the option of a nurse home visit after the birth of a child	✓		
	Pass Student Success Act, with 20% of the revenue dedicated to early learning strategies (pre-k, head start, EHS, Early Intervention-Early Childhood Special Education, home visiting, professional development, and more)	✓		
	Create a task force to develop a plan for improving child care in Oregon	✓		
	Pass legislation to create contracted child care slots for infants and toddlers	✓		
State Contact Information: Dana Hepper – dana@childinst.org				
PA	Unfortunately, the budget included no state dollars allocated for Census funding. PPC pushed for a state investment, as an accurate Census count helps the state’s FMAP for Medicaid/CHIP coverage in addition to many other program serving the state’s birth-to-five population.		✓	
	Expanding continuous eligibility in Medicaid beyond the current age level of birth up to age three was not implemented by the Department of Human Services.		✓	
	A study on the feasibility of implementing full-day kindergarten was proposed by the governor and introduced in legislation but was not advanced.		✓	
	The FY 2019-20 state budget was again passed ahead of the June 30 deadline, which is a rarity in Pennsylvania, this year largely due to a small surplus rather than the typical deficits we have been experiencing. The budget spends \$33.9 billion, or an increase of 1.8% over FY 2018-19 and contains no broad-based tax increases.	✓		
	Home visiting received a \$5 million increase in the Community-Based Family Centers line item, which the amount the governor proposed. In the past three years PPC has worked in a coalition focused on home visiting funding, we have secured \$16.5 million in additional dollars, or a 480 percent increase between the family center line and the dedicated line for Nurse Family Partnership.	✓		
	For CHIP, the budget included a \$30.3 million increase (all state dollars). This was the first in a two-year roll-back of enhanced federal match from 89% to 67%. Another similar allocation of state funds will be required next year.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
PA	The state budget cut the appropriation for child care by \$36 million, with the legislature citing the back-fill of federal funds. The governor did not propose additional state dollars beyond federal CCDBG funds received (\$67 million targeted to reducing the Child Care Works wait list, addressing tiered reimbursement and professional development).	✓		
	On the education front, the budget included a \$160 million increase for basic education funding (BEF), nearly matching the governor's ask of \$166 million. Special education received a \$50 million increase, matching the governor's proposal, while career and technical education received a \$10 million increase in funding, also matching the governor's proposal. A Special Education Funding Commission was also authorized in a school code bill that will release a report by November 30, 2019.	✓		
	The budget contains a \$30 million increase for pre-k (the governor proposed a \$50 million increase), or 12 percent. In the past five budgets, pre-k has seen \$145 million in increased investments between the Pre-K Counts Program and the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program. A rate increase for Pre-K Counts was included as part of the budget, set at 2.95 percent.	✓		
	The state's school code bill included language that reduced the compulsory school age from 8 years to 6 years and increased it from 17 years to 18 years.	✓		
	A bill authorizing the state Insurance Department to apply for a waiver to implement a state-based health insurance exchange was passed and will be implemented effective January 1, 2021.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Kari King - Kking@papartnerships.org			
RI	Increase funding for evidence-based home visiting.		✓	
	Improve the state's paid family leave program by increasing the wage replacement rate and expanding weeks of leave.		✓	
	Implement a statewide Kindergarten Entry Profile.		✓	
	Improve curriculum in grades K-3 and align with early learning programs.		✓	
	Increased funding for State Pre-K to sustain/expand classrooms.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
RI	Increased funding for the Child Care Assistance Program to implement/increase tiered quality rates.	✓		
	Strengthen child care licensing system (statute was changed to move function to the state agency that manages child care subsidy).	✓		
	Develop and implement compensation strategies for infant/toddler educators, home visitors, and EI.			✓
	Launch First 1,000 Days of Rite Care/Medicaid initiative.			✓
	State Contact Information: Leanne Barret - lbarret@rikidscount.org			
SC	An additional \$5.5 million in state funding to cover increases in enrollment eligibility and a reduction in federal funds for CHIP.	✓		
	An additional \$96 to \$54 per month in support for foster children	✓		
	An additional \$22 million (almost 200% more) in funding for the state's IDEA part C program (Babynet)	✓		
	One-time funding to provide \$170,00 to the state's Child Advocacy Center network	✓		
	A 14% increase (~\$7 million increase) in state full-day 4-year old preschool funding.	✓		
	S 0291: to create the department of early development and education - bringing together programs focused on early childhood from several other agencies. A related study committee was established consider early childhood governance issues during the summer/fall legislative recess.			✓
	S 0318: the Pay for Success Performance Accountability Act, which would facilitate the state's engagement in future Pay for Success projects. The state's first such project expanded quality postpartum Nurse Home Visiting, and a pending project would expand a suite of early childhood services. This passed the state Senate and is under consideration in the House.			✓
	H 3759: K-12 Education Reform. The details of this legislation have shifted through the committee hearing process, which is still underway. Teacher pay is one significant area of discussion, as are proposals around 3rd grade reading supports and other early childhood investments. This passed the state House and is under consideration in the Senate.			✓

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
SC	H 3845: To authorize charter schools to provide certain IDEA services for 3- and 4-year old children. This passed the state House and is under consideration in the Senate.			✓
	S 0498: to establish a data sharing arrangement between the Children’s Trust and the Department of Social Services. This passed the state Senate and is under consideration in the House.			✓
	S 0595: To establish background check requirements for certain previously-exempt child care facilities. This passed the state Senate and is under consideration in the House.			✓
	State Contact Information: Jamie Moon – jmoon@instituteforchildrensuccess.org			
SD	2019 House Bill 1175 - To Establish an Early Learning Advisory Council.		✓	
	Department of Social Services raised the ceiling tiles in childcare programs from 175 to 209% providing more children access to child care assistance services.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Fran Apland – sfapland@yahoo.com			
TX	The Legislature declined to pass the proposed bills and funding to help ensure Texas achieves an accurate 2020 Census count. Young children are historically undercounted in the census, potentially diminishing the amount of federal funding the state will receive for critical early childhood and education programs over the subsequent decade, including child care, ECI, and federal education funding.		✓	
	The House took a big step forward by passing HB 744, which would have implemented the Maternal Mortality Task Force recommendation to extend mothers postpartum Medicaid coverage to 12 months after childbirth, replacing the current state policy that leaves many Texas mothers uninsured just two months after delivery. Unfortunately, the Senate did not take up the legislation.		✓	
	State leaders made no progress on the state’s worst-in-the-nation uninsured rates for children, women of childbearing age, and other adults this legislative session.		✓	
	Texas lawmakers approved an additional \$5M over the biennium for home visiting, including increases for HOPES and Nurse Family Partnership.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
TX	Texas lawmakers approved a \$7 million general revenue increase for Department of State Health Services maternal health initiatives, including pregnancy medical home, AIM maternal safety bundles (at hospitals), initiatives for high risk pregnant women, and prevention and public awareness activities.	✓		
	After years of state budget cuts and programs closing, policymakers allocated an additional \$31M in state funds to support our IDEA Part C program for babies and toddlers with disabilities. This was the biggest infusion of state money into Texas ECI in over a decade.	✓		
	As part of a \$6 billion boost to public education, the state approved full-day pre-k funding through a new Early Education Allotment, which will distribute to districts an estimated \$780 million per year for full-day pre-k or other early reading and mathematics strategies. The funding will be distributed as a 0.1 weight in the state's funding formulas for each student in kindergarten through third grade who is classified as economically disadvantaged and/or an English Language Learner.	✓		
	HB 3, the legislature's major school finance reform bill, provides ongoing investments in early childhood education, including funding for full-day prekindergarten. It also establishes new kindergarten through third grade reading standards, directs districts to develop an early childhood literacy and mathematics proficiency plan, provides funding for districts to provide additional days of instruction to reduce summer slide in the early years, and narrows the number of approved kindergarten readiness assessments to ensure data can be easily compared across the state.	✓		
	SB 568 and SB 569 address child care safety minimum standards and the state's oversight. SB 568 ensures more information is available to parents on the safety records of child care centers and strengthens the child care license renewal process, among other reforms. SB 569 increases oversight for a group of small in-home child care operations the state classifies as listed family homes.	✓		
	SB 708 directs Health and Human Services to collect data on caregiver-child ratios and group size standards, as well as serious violations and injuries. The bill also directs the agency to make recommendations on ratios to the Legislature upon completion of the study.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
TX	The Legislature passed HB 18 and HB 19, two bills that ensure schools are better equipped to address a range of social, emotional, and behavior challenges that interfere with student’s health and education on a daily basis. HB 18 establishes training, policy, and planning requirements for school districts related to student mental health, the use of trauma-informed practices, and helping students develop social and emotional skills and learn about mental health. Thanks to HB 19, non-physician mental health professionals will be available as a dedicated resource to help schools meet these new requirements.	✓		
	HB 680 assigns a unique child identification number to children in the subsidized child care program, which is also assigned to children in the public school system in an effort to connect these children from birth through high school (and beyond). The bill also mandated data reporting and transparency related to our subsidy and QRIS programs, more meaningful professional development paid for with public dollars, and the ability to use contracted slots as a method for increasing quality child care.	✓		
	HB 65 directs the Texas Education Agency to collect information from school districts about out-of-school suspensions, including the basis for suspensions, the number of days students were suspended, and the number of suspensions that were inconsistent with the student code of conduct.	✓		
	SB 952 updates and minimum child care standards for child care nutrition and active play to align with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Heart Association, and American Public Health Association.	✓		
	State Contact Information: David Feigen – dfeigen@txchildren.org			
VA	The legislature did not accept the Governor’s proposal for additional classroom observations, professional development, and curriculum enhancements in Virginia Preschool Initiative classrooms. While not funded in the state budget, some of this work will continue with the new federal grant Virginia received in December 2018 to improve our early childhood systems.			✓
	Despite support for the concepts of the Early Childhood Success Act to bring early childhood programs under the Department of Education, the bill failed in the House of Delegates. This means there will not be a signal from the legislature to move in this direction, nor will there be a legislature-sanctioned workgroup formed to explore potential models of oversight or the creation of an Innovation Fund.			✓

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
VA	A small step forward to ensure children have access to school counselors. The final budget includes an increase of \$12 million to support additional school counselors. This is a third of what the Governor initially included in his budget. A bill passed this session to limit counselors to spend no more than 20% of their time on other administrative duties to be more available to students.			
	The General Assembly increased the payment amount for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families by 5%, a \$3.2 million investment. For the majority of kinship families, child-only TANF is the only program from which they receive financial assistance.	✓		
	Improved integration of children’s mental health services in primary care by establishing a pediatric mental health access program in Virginia. We are thrilled that the final budget includes \$1.23 million per year to build out state-wide capacity for the Virginia Mental Health Access Program. VMAP will improve the identification and treatment of children’s mental health needs by offering physicians specialized children’s mental health training, access to on-demand behavioral health consultation services with child psychiatrists, and care coordination to identify regional mental health resources (like outpatient therapy) for children in need.	✓		
	More than 1,500 at-risk four-year-olds will have the opportunity to attend high-quality preschool. The final budget includes \$6.1 million to continue VPI+ classrooms in 13 communities slated to lose a federal grant. While the Governor proposed covering the local match requirement for these communities, the legislature requires school divisions to put in local matching funds of up to 40% of the per pupil amount.	✓		
	The legislature passed an expansion of the Education Improvement Tax Credit Scholarship to pre-kindergarten (SB1015- Stanley). These scholarships would be available to middle-income families (300% of poverty, or 400% if the child has an IEP) to attend preschool programs with demonstrated quality (VCPE accredited, VA Quality level 3, or licensed and meeting other quality standards). The value of the scholarship would be the state share of the VPI per pupil amount, ranging from \$3,163 in Fairfax to \$5,219 in Lee.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Emily Griffey – Emily@vakids.org			
WA	Preschool entitlement for up children up to 200% FPL.		✓	
	\$7.6 million investment to expand access to a portfolio of home visiting services.	✓		

APPENDIX

STATE	BUDGET, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS	PASSED		
		YES	NO	PENDING
WA	Family child care collective bargaining agreement that includes rate increases, professional supports and other incentives.	✓		
	\$30mil invested in the Early Learning Facilities Fund to support capital projects to expand access to child care and preschool	✓		
	Rate increases for Pre-K contractors by 6%.	✓		
	Child care reimbursement rate increases for center based care to the 55th percentile of market rate.	✓		
	1171 additional state pre-k slots for low-income 3 and 4 year old's.	✓		
	State Contact Information: Allison Krutsinger – allison.krutsinger@childrensalliance.org			
WI	Governor proposed \$5M in GPR in FY20-21 to support the expansion and creation of early childhood education programs in the 5 largest school districts in the state		✓	
	Governor's budget proposed increasing subsidy rates to 50% of market (\$46M over biennium)		✓	
	Increase funding for home visiting by \$500,000 in the first year and \$2.5 million in the second year to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect through the Family Foundations Home Visiting program.	✓		
	Governor proposed \$1M over biennium to support pyramid model expansion.	✓		
	Governor proposed \$1.4M over the biennium to support access to high quality child care for families in a geographic area with high poverty levels in the City of Milwaukee.	✓		
	Joint Finance Committee proposed to increase subsidy to at least 25% of market (\$23M over biennium)	✓		
	Increase subsidy rate for certified family child care providers (total cost \$2M)	✓		
	State Contact Information: Ruth Schmidt – ruschmidt@wisconsinearlychildhood.org			

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
AR	Work with early childhood stakeholders to create a long-term vision of the First 1,000 Days for Arkansas children.
	Build momentum to pass legislation supporting the early childhood workforce during the 2021 legislative session, such as a tax credit incentive for early childhood educators based on their educational attainment and credentials.
	Create a bipartisan early childhood legislative caucus that develops a package of legislation to be introduced in the 2021 legislative session.
	Assist legislators in conducting an interim study proposal on pay parity between early childhood educators and public school pre-K teachers.
	Work with policymakers and agency leaders to provide retirement benefits to early childhood educators in state-funded ABC centers outside the K-12 public school system.
	Engage the Kids Count Coalition and the Complete Count Committee on the Census in ensuring that all young children are counted during the upcoming Census.
	Raise awareness about Arkansas’s startlingly high rate of children with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and advocate for the mental health needs of young children and their caregivers.
	Launch a statewide campaign to expand paid leave for families to help address the shortage of quality infant care.
	Monitor the merger of the Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education with the Arkansas Department of Education and provide recommendations, as needed.
CA	Authorize a kindergarten readiness tool for California.
	Develop a single, regionalized reimbursement rate system for childcare, preschool, and early learning services that compensates all teachers and providers for the full cost of providing care, recognizes the costs of meeting varying quality standards and regulations, and strengthens the ability of the state’s mixed delivery system to provide quality early learning options.
	Expand the capacity of the ECE system by building the supply of facilities so providers can serve more children. (See: AB 452 Mullin)
	Increase access to quality care by expanding child care spaces. (See: AB 194 Reyes)
	Strengthen and expand the early care and education workforce pipeline. (See: AB 324 Aguiar-Curry)
Add developmental screenings to the Managed Care Organization (MCO) performance dashboard to better monitor the screenings being done under California’s managed care plans.	

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
CA	Provide local coordination grants for counties operating the CalWORKs Home Visiting Program, to enhance coordination across home visiting systems where multiple efforts currently exist. Dedicate resources to cross-agency collaboration, particularly on data collection, evaluation, and training.
	Align California's quality standards to create an articulated continuum of standards for health, safety, and child development.
CO	Address maternal and infant mortality disparities
	Continue work to ensure all kids get a healthy start, with a particular focus on mental and behavioral health and supports to ensure successful implementation of recently passed early childhood discipline policies.
	Expand access to quality, affordable, and available child care through increased funding, tax credit strategies, and investigating the feasibility of contracted slots within the state's subsidy program through a pilot program.
	Increase access to pre-K via a likely 2020 ballot measure.
	Advocating for policy recommendations from the Infant and Family Child Care Home Strategic Action Plan, due to the legislature by December 1, 2019.
	Support the early childhood workforce by utilizing outcomes from state research studies to advance a policy agenda and support innovative local pilots aimed to increase the number of early childhood educators who enter and stay in the workforce.
	Working in partnership with 9to5 Colorado's FAMILI Coalition, explore paid family leave, and lend the expertise of the early childhood field on the importance of paid family leave for families.
	Supporting family economic security by bringing the early childhood lens to issues related to health care access, safe and affordable housing, child tax credits, etc.
	Partnering with Mental Health Colorado, improve access to Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants for communities across the state.
FL	Support quality provisions of HB 1091 passed during 2018 Legislative Session to ensure differential payments and professional development are made available to Voluntary Prekindergarten providers consistent with school readiness providers.
	Establish parameters for the procurement of a VPK Readiness assessment that follows the recommendations set forward in the Committee for Early Grade Success report to adequately measure learning gains and readiness across all appropriate domains.
	Use increased Federal Funding for school readiness to implement HB 1091.

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
FL	Implement a coordinated child assessment system for VPK and kindergarten
	Fund Child Care WAGE\$ Florida Infrastructure at the state level
	Maintain T.E.A.C.H. funding at \$10M.
	Expand Help Me Grow statewide by increasing its budget to \$4.5 million.
	Early Childhood Courts
	Office of Early Learning
	Children and Youth Cabinet
	Medicaid School-Based Services
	Dental Therapy
	Tax Exemption for Diapers and Incontinence Products
	Increase investment in the VPK Base Student Allocation (BSA) allowing providers to afford the resources necessary for high quality programming.
	T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships, an appropriation of \$10 million to fund approximately 5,000 T.E.A.C.H. scholarships to increase the number of lead teachers in early learning with child development credentials.
	WAGE\$, an appropriations of \$725,000 to fund the infrastructure for Early Learning Coalitions to opt-in to Child Care Wage\$ using their quality dollar allocations, enabling approximately 4,000-4,500 early childhood educators access to education-based salary supplements.
Help Me Grow, an overall appropriation of \$4.5 million to fund current Help Me Grow Affiliates and expand to additional counties to provide comprehensive and coordinated services statewide promoting the healthy development of children.	
GA	Support the implementation and promotion of Quality Rated (Georgia’s QRIS), particularly for providers accepting child care subsidies (CAPS)
	Increase state investment in CAPS to serve children, particularly infants and toddlers, through high-quality care
	Support the implementation of the recommendations from the Infant and Toddler Social and Emotional Health Study
	Expand Georgia’s Behavioral Health System of Care State Plan to include infants and toddlers (currently stops at age four)

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
GA	Ensure that Medicaid properly covers mental health screenings and services for parents, infants, and toddlers
	Promote two-generation policies that support Georgia’s young children and their parents in the public, private, and higher education sectors
	Improve data sharing and coordination among programs that serve Georgia’s young children, possibly by leveraging the implementation of the Preschool Development Grant
	Increase pay and financial incentives, such as DECAL Scholars, for early childhood professionals, particularly for those serving infants and toddlers
	9) Advocate for increased coordination between early childhood and K-12 education, particularly in Georgia’s implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act
	Increase funding for early intervention services and evidence-based home visiting programs
IL	The governor will be announcing a Finance Commission this fall to explore possible finance and governance changes to early childhood programs.
	Continuing work to strengthen the early childhood workforce, with an emphasis on need for improved compensation.
	Ongoing work in engaging new agency leaders and members of the administration
	Increase Early Childhood Block Grant funding at the Illinois State Board of Education by \$100 million to both expand access and strengthen program quality for prenatal-age 5 programs (included in the governor’s proposed budget)
	Increase funding for the Child Care Assistance Program by \$30 million to increase income eligibility to 200% FPL and encourage families to return to the program (included in the governor’s proposed budget)
	Increase funding for Early Intervention services by \$12 million to both respond to growing caseloads and provide a long overdue rate increase to providers in the system
	Increase funding for home visiting programs in the Department of Human Services to strengthen those services which have been cut, level-funded and then unappropriated during the budget impasse
	In any capital plan, include \$250 million for early childhood facilities funding to schools and community-based programs
	Advance efforts to connect the early childhood system with maternal and infant mortality/ morbidity reduction strategies
	Advance and support efforts to grow and strengthen the early childhood workforce in a range of settings. Connect proposals to improve the overall teacher shortage to the early childhood workforce across the pipeline from child care licensing credentials through teacher licensure

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
IL	Identifying resources to support providers addressing lead in water
KS	Access to affordable, high-quality child care for every Kansas child and strengthening supports to families from child care assistance. We will advocate for the legislature to budget for the adequate state portion of funding to draw down the full federal grant from the Child Care and Development Block Grant.
	Research and propose paid family leave solutions by connecting with businesses and lawmakers with the intent to determine level of support for a policy. We may advocate for a state level policy or focus on federal legislative solutions based on windows of opportunity.
	Strengthen the working family support programs by modifying eligibility policies for child care assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to ensure these programs can reach Kansas children and families in need.
	Elevate conversations and solutions for high quality child care in rural settings by reaching out to community partners to understand the unique challenges faced in rural areas. This includes a focus of the Governor’s Education Council around child care workforce across the state.
	Participate in the Governor’s tax study council to ensure that tax structures, including credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit, are prioritized to benefit working Kansas families.
	Participate through Gubernatorial and Senate leadership appointments on the Children’s Cabinet and Education Council to chart a course for improved early education systems and data alignment.
	Support the efforts of the Early Learning Caucus to help educate their peers about early childhood programs in Kansas.
	Improve access to health care for working parents by expanding Medicaid in Kansas.
KY	Increase CCAP reimbursement rates to child care providers to 75th percentile
	Increase CCAP initial eligibility to 200% of FPL
	Increase funding for all-day preschool collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care
	Increase CCAP reimbursement rates to child care providers to 75th percentile
	Increase CCAP eligibility at re-certification to 200% of FPL
	Increase initial CCAP eligibility levels to 200% FPL
	Remove CCAP 20 hour/week work requirement for full-time students
	Fund all-day preschool through pre-K collaboration grants for schools and community-based child care

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
LA	Research the current Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) waitlist through a survey of the families to understand the effects of lack of CCAP funding on their families.
	Develop policies to implement a state match for locally raised funds to expand access to quality early care and education, especially for children birth through age three.
	Research mechanisms to provide portability of child data across agencies that allow communities to track children (e.g., data systems, integrated applications, etc.) and link them to supports and services.
	Increase access to quality early care and education in Louisiana, especially for children from birth through age 3.
	Develop platforms to elevate the issue of early care and education during the 2019 elections for Governor, the Legislature and the state board of education. Ensure this issue is included in the agendas of candidates. After the elections, educate the newly elected policy makers on this critical topic.
	Support the Second Year of master planning by the Louisiana Early Childhood Care and Education Commission by researching and developing recommendations on continuing the implementation of LA B to 3 expansion of access to quality early care and education for children birth through age three, increasing access to essential health, development, and social emotional supports for children, and establishing the infrastructure for continued quality improvements and local leadership.
	Maintain, mobilize, and grow the early care and education stakeholder network, by continuing to engage the business community across Louisiana, and beginning to develop grass roots advocacy in the election process.
	Monitor the Ready Start Networks, which are pilots of potential local governance structures for early care and education, as well as supports and services for young children, in Louisiana.
ME	Promote Social and Emotional Learning and Development for young children
	Access to high quality child care
	Universal Preschool
	Home Visiting
	Expand access to Head Start
	Improve access to EPSDT
	Creation of Department of Early Care and Education
	Improve Maine's early childhood special education system
	Support children's healthy development and school readiness

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
ME	Helping Families Achieve Economic Security
	Continue to advance key recommendations resulting from the social-emotional learning and development project, including a statewide early childhood consultation program.
	Support and promote state-funded Head Start, Maine Families/home visiting, child care and public preschool as critical elements in Maine’s early childhood system.
	Expand access to high-quality child care programs by reducing barriers for families to find care, supporting high-needs families in accessing care through contracts, and creating incentives for high-quality programs to develop in underserved regions.
	Support policy changes to Maine’s early intervention system/Child Development Services.
	Promoting changes to Maine’s Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) Program
MD	Dental health access
	Paid family leave
	Pregnancy and employment discrimination
	Trauma informed approaches
	Tax Credit - For the first time in nearly 20 years, the General Assembly has expanded Maryland Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit increasing the income threshold from \$50,000 to \$143,000 for married couples (and to \$92,000 for individuals), indexing these limits annually for inflation, and making the credit refundable for low-income filers.
	Education Reform and Pre-K Funding - This legislation endorses the sweeping policy recommendations of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (better known as the Kirwan Commission) and requires a 3-year down-payment on the implementation of those recommendations, totaling approximately \$1 billion. State funding for pre-kindergarten will expand by \$31.7 in FY 2020 and an estimated \$53.6 million in FY 2021.
	Child Care Subsidy - Building on landmark legislation from 2018 to give parents access to quality care, this bill accelerates a mandated increase of child care subsidy rates. Beginning in July 2020, subsidy rates must equal or exceed 60 percent of market rates and must remain at or above the 60th percentile in the future.
	Paid Family Leave - Incorporating recommendations from a blue-ribbon Task Force and following the enactment of paid parental leave for State employees in 2018, this bill sought to establish an insurance fund to provide partial wage replacement for Marylanders taking time away from work to care for new babies, loved ones with serious health conditions or disabilities, or themselves.
Care Coordination - MFN supported legislation, which would expand support for care coordination services for low-income pregnant women, postpartum women, and their children from birth to age three.	

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
MD	EIC - MFN supported legislation, which would help fund a campaign to expand awareness of the Earned Income Tax Credit and provide free income tax preparation assistance to low-income individuals and families.
	MFN supported legislation, which would require health insurance plans to allow women who become pregnant to enroll for coverage irrespective of the plans open enrollment periods.
	MFN supported legislation, which would ensure more children have reliable access to healthy food, year-round.
	MFN supported legislation, which would require that the annual report from the State Maternal Mortality Review Committee include a section on racial disparities
	MFN supported legislation, which would allow jurisdictions to create local maternal mortality review teams to study maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity
MA	Preschool expansion, through increases in the state budget and passage of legislation.
	Workforce compensation and professional development, through investments in the state budget and policy development at the Department of Early Education and Care.
	Affordable child care for all, through passage of legislation, raising awareness by participating on a new cross-sector coalition for affordable, high-quality child care.
	Dual-language learners: coalition-building, data sharing, advocacy, policy change.
	Infant / toddler supports: expanding access to high-quality programs and services.
MS	Expand state-funded pre-K
	Increase per-pupil for state-funded pre-K
	Develop sustainable funding source for coaching
NE	Legislation was passed and signed into law to allow the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to access the Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Record System to verify training levels, allowing child care providers to use this system in place of storing and filing hard copies.
	Legislation was introduced to fix an unforeseen issue with Nebraska's School Readiness Tax Credit to allow family child care owners to access a refundable tax credit as well as grant access for certain types of child care centers. This legislation made it out of committee and will carry over to the 2020 session.
	Legislation was passed and signed into law allowing cities to utilize economic development funds to support early childhood projects.

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
NE	Nebraska’s Department of Health and Human Services brought and First Five Nebraska supported legislation to get into compliance with the fingerprinting and graduated phase-out requirements in the CCDBG Reauthorization. These bills passed and were signed into law.
	Cuts previously made to early childhood programs were restored in the 2019-2021 biennium budget.
	Legislation was passed and signed into law allowing communities to access economic development grants for community centers to support early childhood programs.
	First Five Nebraska will work in the coming session to pass fixes to Nebraska’s School Readiness Tax Credit to allow family child care owners and centers registered as S corporations’ access to the tax credit.
	First Five Nebraska will support a bill directing funds created by regulation of the on-line fantasy gaming industry to the WAGE\$ program in Nebraska.
	First Five Nebraska is exploring administrative and legislation options around expulsion in early childhood.
	First Five Nebraska is exploring a growing concern over unlicensed care.
	First Five Nebraska will support legislative and administrative changes that result from work done for Nebraska’s Preschool Development Grant and PCI Prenatal - 3 Grant.
NV	Add an additional member who is a representative of the pediatric mental, physical or behavioral health care industry to the Early Childhood Advisory Council.
	Require the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the amount of child care providers willing and able to care for children with a documented disability.
	Allow individuals with previous marijuana drug convictions to work at a child care facility, assuming they passed a background check. Allow contracted workers with background checks to be left alone with children at child care centers.
	Remove the Sales Tax on Diapers
	Update the reporting requirements regarding the amount of levels of lead in the blood of a child and created the diapering resource account, create a fund to increase the availability of nutritious foods and snacks and physical activity opportunities at child care facilities.
	Allow for parents attending school full time to qualify for child care subsidy
	Increase the Nevada state pre-k program capacity by an additional 1,500 children.
	Allows for and provides guidance to the Department of Education to oversee and manage the Nevada State Pre-k program.
Create an appropriation of \$8 million to expand the state’s preschool infrastructure by building more classrooms, purchasing equipment and providing grants to preschool teachers.	

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
NV	Require the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the reimbursement rate for providers caring for children in foster care at 100% of the cost of care.
	Add an additional member who is a representative of the pediatric mental, physical or behavioral health care industry to the Early Childhood Advisory Council.
	Require the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the amount of child care providers willing and able to care for children with a documented disability
	Allow individuals with previous marijuana drug convictions to work at a child care facility, assuming they passed a background check. Allow contracted workers with background checks to be left alone with children at child care centers.
	Remove the Sales Tax on Diapers.
	Update the reporting requirements regarding the amount of levels of lead in the blood of a child and created the diapering resource account, create a fund to increase the availability of nutritious foods and snacks and physical activity opportunities at child care facilities.
	Allow for parents attending school full time to qualify for child care subsidy
	Increase the Nevada state pre-k program capacity by an additional 1,500 children.
	Allows for and provides guidance to the Department of Education to oversee and manage the Nevada State Pre-k program.
	Create an appropriation of \$8 million to expand the state’s preschool infrastructure by building more classrooms, purchasing equipment and providing grants to preschool teachers.
	Require the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services to work to increase the reimbursement rate for providers caring for children in foster care at 100% of the cost of care.
NH	Expanded access to Medicaid home visiting
	Support infrastructure for a statewide system of family resource centers
	Support for Grandfamilies and other kinship care providers
	Implementation of a robust QRIS
	Strengthen Developmental Screening and referral processes in NH
	Expand access to home visiting services beyond Medicaid populations
	Support a robust quality rating and improvement system in NH

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
NJ	Expand access to quality child care for infants and toddlers
	Expand access to high quality preschool
	Maintain and expand the availability of home visitation services
	Ensure resources and services are available to foster infants' social and emotional health
	Educate low-income families on the changes in and the availability of Paid Family Leave in New Jersey
	Ensure that all children between the ages of 0-5 years old are counted in the 2020 Census
NM	<p>During the 2019 Legislative Session, New Mexico created a stand-alone, cabinet level, early childhood department. The new department, to be phased starting in July 2020, will include home visiting, early intervention, child care licensing and assistance, mixed delivery PreK, and Head Start. A broad coalition of advocates and unexpected messengers contributed to build bipartisan support for the creation of this new department.</p>
	<p>In addition to the creation of a new department, a new administration has also emphasized the importance of coordination of early childhood services between existing departments. While already established in statute, the incoming governor quickly appointed a director of the state's Children's Cabinet, tasked with ensuring alignment between health, public education, workforce, and more.</p>
	<p>The 2019 Legislative Session also saw historic funding gains for early childhood education. Overall, appropriations for early childhood programs from FY19 to FY20 increased \$45 million, or 16 percent. This outpaced the 11 percent overall increase to the state's budget. These increases included \$24 million in new money for PreK (a 38 percent increase!), \$2 million for home visiting, \$10 million for child care, \$7 million for early intervention, and \$3 million for early childhood scholarships and wage supplements. Additionally, the FY20 budget sets aside money to expand the state's pilot of using Medicaid to pay for home visiting services.</p>
	Implementation of the new early childhood department
	Identification of a dedicated, adequate funding stream for early childhood programs.
NY	<p>Our 2020-21 budget and legislative agenda is not yet final, but we expect it to include advocacy in support of a robust expansion of full-day pre-K outside of New York City, launching of an ambitious multi-year plan to dramatically expand access to high quality child care, and significant new investment in early intervention/preschool special education services. Our agenda will likely include these priorities:</p>

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
NY	<p>Child Care: Support and encourage New York’s newly convened Child Care Availability Task Force to develop and begin to implement an ambitious plan to make high-quality child care in NY universally accessible and affordable; to ensure the child care workforce is fairly and equitably compensated, well-supported, and provided professional development opportunities; and to align and integrate child care with other early childhood systems. In the short-term, advocate for building block investments to expand access to quality child care to more low-income working families, particularly those with babies and toddlers, and to increase compensation and support for the child care workforce, while at the same time putting New York on track for a longer-term transformation of its child care system.</p>
	<p>Pre-K: Expand Pre-K for 3- and 4-year-olds, with attention to rates to support a highly-qualified workforce in all settings.</p>
	<p>Preschool Special Education: Advocate for an increase in tuition rates for preschool special education programs to help address the shortage of these programs. In the past several years, more than 60 preschool special education programs in New York have closed, often citing insufficient tuition rates, resulting in preschoolers with disabilities waiting months or longer for seats in the programs they need and have a legal right to receive.</p>
	<p>Home visiting: We expect that the Development Plans/Final Report coming out of the NYS Home Visiting Coordination Initiative (HVCI) in December will inform our budget and policy requests.</p>
	<p>After school: Advocates are discussing this year’s budget request, which may include changes to the two NYS after school programs -- Advantage and Empire State -- to create synergy between the two.</p>
	<p>Family Economic Security: Advocate to strengthen New York’s working family tax credits beginning with its child tax credit (the Empire State Child Credit), to reduce child poverty by expanding the credit to cover children under age four (who are currently excluded from the credit), enhancing the credit for these young children.</p>
	<p>In December 2018, New York’s Governor convened the Governor’s Child Care Availability Task Force. Many advocates, providers and parents have been appointed to the Task Force - and we are working collaboratively, and effectively -- together with dedicated state partners -- to move the work forward. The Task Force has been meeting regularly, and has made some important progress. It has adopted ambitious guiding principles, committed to making interim, budget recommendations this fall; and have secured public and private funds to staff the task force. While this is very much a work in progress, there seems to a real possibility that this Task Force will emerge with ambitious recommendations to make high-quality child care in NY universally accessible and affordable; to ensure the child care workforce is fairly and equitably compensated, well-supported, and provided professional development opportunities; and to align and integrate child care with other early childhood systems.</p>
	<p>The NYC Comptroller recently released a bold new proposal to dramatically expand child care for babies and toddlers in NYC. He proposed to fund NYC Under 3 with a new payroll tax projected to add \$664 million for child care. The comptroller’s proposed tax, which needs state approval, draws attention to the need to identify alternative funding strategies for early childhood services.</p>

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
NY	<p>Home Visiting: With funding from the Preschool Development Grant and technical assistance from the Ounce, we have undertaken the NYS Home Visiting Coordination Initiative (HVCI), an effort to better coordinate services and supports across home visiting programs at the regional and state levels. Between now and the end of December, HVCI will work with 10 regional backbone organizations to hold at least two summits per region, with programs, partners, and parents at the table. These facilitated summits will result in the creation of 10 Development Plans and a comprehensive final report that will be delivered to policymakers and other stakeholders. The Schuyler Center will contribute updated county and regional data to inform the process. In addition, the Ounce will facilitate the second of two meetings with state agency representatives and the Governor’s Office in an effort to create a more comprehensive plan for service delivery at that level. We expect the regional recommendations to inform our budget and policy requests going forward.</p>
OK	<p>Prioritize the need for greater expansion and support of rural child care through participation in the Alliance for Early Success Rural Child Care Learning Collaborative.</p> <p>Secure funding through the Preschool Develop Grant (Birth-Five) to support and enhance early care and education systems based on a comprehensive needs assessment and five year strategic plan.</p> <p>Implement an early childhood integrated data system to capture an unduplicated count of early care and education program participation and inform future investments in early childhood.</p> <p>Focus on equity in early childhood by identifying policies that contribute to disparities and advocating for changes/revisions or enactment of new policies.</p> <p>Reinstate the refundable earned income tax credit (EITC), impacting over 200,000 working families in the state. On average, EITC recipients have lost \$121/year since 2016 when the legislature made the credit nonrefundable.</p> <p>Childcare subsidies, administered through DHS through CCDBG received a 36% increase, or \$32million more, through increased federal funding. With the new funding the Department of Human Services (DHS) will:</p> <p>Increase provider reimbursement rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminated a rate schedule for providers, in which rural providers received standard area reimbursement rates and metro providers received enhanced area reimbursement rates. Now all providers receive a rate that is the same for the entire state. • Higher reimbursement rates for providers with nontraditional hours.

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
OK	<p>DHS will expand program eligibility and reduce family copayments “ went into effect March 1, 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS increased subsidy eligibility threshold to 85% of the state median income (SMI) based on family size. Previous threshold was 56-65% SMI. • Limited copayments to not exceed 7% of household income. • Families at or below the federal poverty level will now have zero copayments. • Lowered copayments for families with more than one child in childcare. • Program eligibility was extended to 12 months to meet federal guidelines. • Extended EHS-CC partnership subsidy policies to OECP (approved full time rate with absent day payments for children, parent’s schedule doesn’t have to match Oklahoma Early Childhood Program hours, waived family share copayments)
	<p>DHS will invest in quality-enhancing initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHS partnered with Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Association to hire an infant and toddler specialist at each of their eight regional offices and a manager at their state office. • Specialists receive training in infant/toddler development, impact of trauma, coaching practices and relationship-based care. • Funds are also being used to provide stipends and scholarships for child care workers to earn a college degree or obtain a certification in child care.
	<p>Oklahoma has the second highest uninsured rate in the country, which leads to negative health outcomes across our state. To combat Oklahoma’s health care problem, SB993 was passed, which expands short-term insurance and association health plans (AHSPs) from six months to 12 months and allows for renewals for up to three years. These plans do not cover maternity care, do not cover pre-existing conditions, 40% do not cover mental health care, 70% do not cover prescription medications, and 70% do not cover substance-use disorders.</p>
	<p>Several Agency Reform Bills were passed that grant direct appointment authority to the governor, with senate confirmation, for the directors of five state agencies: Oklahoma Health Care Authority, Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Office of Juvenile Affairs, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and the Department of Transportation.</p>
	<p>“ SB193 reinstated certain class size requirements for kindergarten and first grade once the school is given resources to meet the requirements (no more than 20 students without an assistance teacher).</p>
OR	<p>Pass Student Success Act, with 20% of the revenue dedicated to early learning strategies (pre-k, head start, EHS, Early Intervention-Early Childhood Special Education, home visiting, professional development, and more)</p>
	<p>Create a task force to develop a plan for improving child care in Oregon</p>
	<p>Pass legislation to create contracted child care slots for infants and toddlers</p>

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
OR	Reduce parent co-pays in the child care subsidy program
	Launch Universal Family Connects in Oregon to provide new parents with the option of a nurse home visit after the birth of a child
	Developing a statewide plan for improving access to quality, affordable child care
	Provide funding to establish and improve early care and education facilities
	Create a systemic approach to supporting children & families' mental health needs in early care and education settings
	Enhance support for the early care and education work force
PA	Grow investments in the home visiting state line item open to all evidence-based home visiting models operating in the commonwealth.
	Gain increased investments in high-quality publicly funded pre-k programs in FY 2019-20 state budget.
	Increase access to high quality child care for children in the Child Care Works subsidy program, particularly for infants and toddlers.
	Grow investments in basic education and special education funding.
	Expand continuous eligibility in Medicaid beyond 0 to 3 and improve other outreach, enrollment and other renewal practices to reduce the uninsured rate for children.
	Begin efforts building a campaign calling for a statewide lead testing mandate for children before age 2.
	Promote the identification and utilization of kin resources for all children in foster care.
	Work to improve opportunities to maximize good health through promoting federal and state laws and policies focused on childhood nutrition.
	Work to see that the 2020 Decennial Census efforts in Pennsylvania focus on comprehensive communications research and outreach to prevent an under-count of young children.
	Developing a comprehensive prenatal-to-age three policy agenda that builds on existing work in health care, home visiting and child care, but builds out in new areas such as maternal health and in children's health including nutrition, mental health, and screenings.
Look to secure additional support from the state for the WIC program to stem enrollment declines.	
Exploratory work in advocating for increased state dollars for the state's birth-to-three and three-to-five early intervention programs, as this has been an area in which we have not recently been engaged.	

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
RI	Increase and expand tiered quality rates for the Child Care Assistance Program to meet the federal benchmark for equal access.
	Strengthen the state’s child care licensing system to meet national recommendations and requirements.
	Develop and implement compensation strategies to improve qualifications and retention of effective infant/toddler educators, home visitors, and Early Intervention providers.
	Expand State Pre-K to reach all four-year olds through a high-quality, mixed delivery system.
	Improve the state’s paid family leave program by increasing the wage replacement rate and extending the number of weeks of leave.
	Increase state funding for evidence-based home visiting programs so all pregnant and parenting families facing significant challenges can participate.
	Launch a First 1,000 Days of Rite Care/Medicaid initiative to improve the health and development of infants, toddlers, and their families.
	Implement high-quality, developmentally-appropriate curricula and assessment in grades K-3. Align with early childhood programs.
	Implement a statewide Kindergarten Entry Profile system to connect the early childhood system to early elementary grades.
	Reduce chronic absence in the early grades.
SC	Expand and improve prevention services for families at risk of entering the child welfare system.
	Focus social service efforts on child protection and family capacity.
	Consolidate and prioritize state level early childhood education, care, and development.
	Expand existing successful voluntary home visiting programs that support families with children from prenatal to age five.
	Promote fiscal policies that empower working families.
	Promote policies that increase access to affordable and high quality early care, learning, and preschool opportunities.
	Strengthen capacity and incentives for child care providers to participate in the state’s child care QRIS.
	Align early childhood services to increase data-driven accountability, quality, and impact statewide. Support and incentivize the inclusion of children with disabilities in high quality early childhood programs.

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
SC	<p>South Carolina is in the middle of a 2-year legislative session (2019-20) in which K-12 education reform is a dominant topic of consideration. While the primary focus of the related legislation is within those K-12 ages, some significant discussion has included the “cradle to career” or “0-20 continuum, and also how early childhood investments improve outcomes for school-aged children.</p>
	<p>Like many states, South Carolina is working to come into compliance with the federal Families First legislation, and ultimately increase attention to preventing child maltreatment, which will involve policy changes currently under development at both an agency and legislative level.</p>
SD	<p>Supporting an Early Learning Advisory Council South Dakota House Bill 2021</p>
	<p>Reach out to public and private partners to create a South Dakota Early Learning Resource Inventory</p>
	<p>Market for contributions to the SDAEYC Endowment Fund maintained under the South Dakota Community Foundation</p>
	<p>Visibility through establishing connections within the state through local initiatives -- presence at kids fairs, teacher events, parent events, letters to the editor.</p>
	<p>Form a SDAEYC student group at Black Hills State University. Currently there is a student group at the University of SD and SD State University.</p>
	<p>Robert Woods Johnson Foundation Grant thru NAEYC</p>
	<p>To create ‘flattening’ and transparently of services provided to professionals and families within the state. The current system has differing boundaries for agencies such as Head Start, Birth to Three, and the Early Childhood Enrichment System (5 centers throughout the state each having a different name and service area as stated). Only three examples are stated but this objective could focus on many other service areas.</p>
	<p>To bring a House Bill to the floor in 2021 to establish an Early Learning Advisory Council. Ground work is being initiated this year in preparation for 2021 as this bill has been defeated three previous years.</p>
	<p>A request was sent to a house member to consider a bill in 2020 creating ease of access to Early Care and Learning Resource services throughout South Dakota.</p>
	<p>Executing RWJF Grant funding in three goal areas of 1) identify and implement strategies focused on policy development, 2) Develop a marketing campaign that educates and promotes early learning across the state, and 3) Collect and disseminate relevant and accurate data about early learning in the state.</p>
<p>Same as Policy Item 3 with regard to administering the Grant with partnering agencies and SDAEYC.</p>	
TN	<p>Pre-K to 3rd grade early literacy and math coaching pilot program for priority elementary schools</p>
	<p>Defend Voluntary Pre-K funding</p>
	<p>Expand evidence-based early home visiting programs</p>

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
TN	Use public child care funding more effectively for quality, affordability and access
	Defend the Pre-K and kindergarten portfolio model
	Establish an Early Education Caucus in the Tennessee General Assembly
	Secure funding for and launch a Pre-K to 2nd grade instructional practices study by Vanderbilt University and the Tennessee Education Research Alliance (TERA)
	Complete a study of teacher assignment practices and enact policies to prevent the reassignment of poor performing higher grades teachers to lower grades
	Appointment of a gubernatorial task force, including expert consultants to draft a strategic plan or child care in Tennessee
	Expand Voluntary Pre-K to more disadvantaged children where both quality and need are demonstrated
	Expand evidence-based home visiting
	Expand pre-K and K coaching at the district level
	Streamline and enhance early childhood credentials provided by educator preparation programs
TX	Educate policymakers and public about the early childhood education system and need for greater investment.
	Invest in full-day, formula-funded, high-quality pre-k to improve school readiness and early grade success.
	Strengthen Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) for kids under age three with disabilities and delays by ensuring sufficient funding for ECI and save state taxpayer dollars by requiring commercial insurance to cover ECI services that are covered in Texas Medicaid.
	Improve the safety and quality of Texas child care by setting effective maximum child care group size and child-caregiver ratios and ensuring the state collects data on these quality indicators in licensed child care.
	Ensure kids in child care maintain a healthy weight and lifestyle by updating the state’s child care standards regarding nutrition, physical activity, and screen time.
	Modernize child care suspension and expulsion policies to ensure young children get the social-emotional and trauma-informed supports they need to be on a strong developmental path.
	Prevent tragic maternal deaths, reduce dangerous pregnancy complications, and support healthy mothers and babies by improving access to insurance coverage during the year after giving birth and during the time between pregnancies.

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
TX	Make prudent, critically needed reforms to Medicaid managed care – the health insurance program for many children, pregnant women, and people with disabilities in Texas – including steps that improve state oversight and coordination, better enforce provider network standards, and strengthen care coordination services so they work more effectively for families and health providers.
	To address the uninsured rate for kids – the highest in the nation and getting worse – allow for kids who are currently eligible for Medicaid insurance to stay enrolled in for 12 continuous months.
	Ensure the successful implementation of high-quality, full-day pre-k funding and standards, analyze new data collected, and elevate the quality of pre-k and early learning programs, including lowering class size, improving student-teacher ratios, expanding quality professional development, promoting early childhood mental health, and more.
	Encourage the expansion of quality pre-k partnerships between school districts and high-quality child care and Head Start.
	Ensure funding for early childhood intervention is adequate to sustain programs and effectively serve children
	Increase access to children’s health coverage and improve health and behavioral health services for children and families.
	Develop a strategy to better support students of limited English language proficiency, or dual language learners.
VA	Go beyond safety and agency oversight in child care to ensure all working parents have access to high-quality child care. Explore opportunities for the Legislature to appropriate state funds for child care instead of relying exclusively on federal funds.
	Provide early childhood teachers with tools for observation, assessment, and coaching that will improve the quality of instruction.
	Sustain preschool opportunities for 1,500 at-risk four-year-olds losing federal grant funding.
	Virginia should identify the framework to expand access and improve quality in all early childhood settings. This vision should articulate a process for the alignment of program goals and governance, collaborative data sharing, and measuring success.
	Increase TANF payment rates for low-income working families and kinship caregivers.
	Continue home visiting efforts to reach more at-risk families.
Expand access to high quality early childhood programs for economically disadvantaged children by seeking additional preschool and child care resources and creating policy recommendations to facilitate effective uses of these funds.	

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
VA	Support proposed consolidation of early childhood governance structure between the Department of Education and the Department of Social Services to ensure that goals are targeted to improve services for economically disadvantaged children.
	Explore Medicaid reimbursement strategies to expand access to home visiting.
	Elevate the social-emotional needs of young children through alternatives to suspension, trauma-informed care, and Early Childhood Mental Health consultation.
WA	Flexibility in eligibility to state funded pre-k. Creates allowable eligibility for families up to 130% FPL and children transitioning from EHS and ESIT
	Passage of the Child Care Access Now Act to collect and examine needed data, develop solutions to child care access and affordability and make recommendations to the legislature to ensure more children have access to high-quality child care. This includes an industry analysis, development of a cost of quality model and implementation plan.
	Removed the work requirement for all single parents accessing child care subsidy who are pursuing a certificate or vocational degree
	Made improvements to our QRIS including additional levels of quality, examining alignment with other accreditation programs and made necessary technical updates.
WI	Increase Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy payment rates by using CCDBG and TANF dollars to increase WI Shares to the federally recommended 75% of market rate.
	Grow a stable and well-qualified workforce of early educators by increasing funding for T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarship and REWARD Stipend program by \$1.6M to eliminate current waiting lists.
	From Wisconsin’s Governor’s Early Childhood Advisory Council: Expand evidence-based home visiting services in areas that are still under-served, including rural and tribal communities without access to the service and communities where the need outpaces the availability.
	From Wisconsin’s Governor’s Early Childhood Advisory Council: Offer a refundable tax credit to the early education workforce in order to strengthen Wisconsin’s current workforce and prepare the future workforce.
	WI Pre to Three Coalition: Expand funding for Pyramid Model intervention for infant and toddler care.
	Wisconsin Infant Toddler Policy Project (WITPP): Grow capacity of high quality infant toddler care by: Developing regulations for large family group homes that serves 7 to 12 children
	WITPP: Grow capacity of high quality infant toddler care by: Providing contracts for infant and toddler slots
WITPP: Grow capacity of high quality infant toddler care by: Providing start-up or expansion grants	

APPENDIX

STATE	AGENDA AND EXPLORATORY ITEMS
WI	WITPP: Grow capacity of high quality infant toddler care by: Developing policies that support shared service hubs
	WITPP: Grow capacity of high quality infant toddler care by: creating incentives for businesses to purchase slots
	WITPP: Increase the amount of the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy reimbursement rate for infant-toddler care based on cost modeling and not market rate survey and increase Shares eligibility
	WITPP: Develop refundable child care tax credits for parents, child care programs and the early childhood workforce.
	WITPP: Increase Wisconsin Shares subsidy uptake by implementing a program of Shares navigators to work with families through the application and verification process.
	WITPP: Increase Wisconsin Shares subsidy uptake by integrating benefit systems/eligibility across child care and other benefits.
	WITPP: Improve professional development supports for providers and connect to state QRIS/ YoungStar by developing a network of infant/toddler specialists (coaches/mentors)



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